

COMMENT OF THE DAY

Problems Of NATO

Mr Hanson Baldwin, the eminent military correspondent of the New York Times, has presented a sombre and thought-provoking review of the accomplishments and shortcomings of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. Many of his misgivings concerning the ability of NATO to realise rearmament and defence programme targets have in past weeks been forecast by General Ridgway, yet the overall situation is not, perhaps, quite so bleak and forbidding as Mr Baldwin's analysis would suggest. It is now established that the European members of NATO cannot reach the target of 60 fully equipped and trained divisions by early 1953, but offsetting this deficiency is the knowledge that unexpected progress has been made in the development of new and important tactical weapons which, while not capable of replacing manpower, can give troops very much more effective striking power. Latest indications are that NATO leans to the belief that less emphasis should now be placed on the quantity of the Organisation's standing armies, and more on their qualitative characteristics. The practical value of paper forces is always speculative; it is more important that the forces readily available to NATO should be effectively balanced and well equipped. Apart from the revolutionary progress made in finding new tactical weapons, members of NATO also have to their credit the near-fulfilment of the target laid down for the construction of operational aircraft, and of a calibre which compares favourably with anything developed elsewhere. In this field of defence, NATO has little cause for complaint.

NEVERTHELESS, an assessment of the relative achievements of NATO leaves no room for complacency. One of the most difficult of the many problems confronting the European members of the Organisation is the necessity of reconciling security needs with internal economy. Western Europe literally cannot afford to go on a war footing without substantial financial assistance. Britain's position is typical: she is fighting for her economic existence and simultaneously striving her utmost to fulfil obligations to NATO. The Government's first duty is to safeguard the economic welfare of the nation, and recognition of this has led Mr Churchill to announce a partial slowing down in rearmament. France likewise is plagued with budget difficulties, complicated and aggravated by the costly war in Indo-China and her commitments in North Africa. These, and other considerations will have to be studied closely by the Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation when it meets this week. Moreover, it will be further handicapped in coming to any weighty decisions by the presence of a "lame duck" American delegation. Mr Dean Acheson, as outgoing Secretary of State, can hardly commit the new US administration to promises of greatly increased aid to Western Europe. It is inevitable, therefore, that NATO marks time so far as defence programmes are concerned, leaving decisions that will commit members to new efforts until the Eisenhower administration has become fully operative.

EISENHOWER'S STATEMENT

ON KOREA WAR

All Quiet Again In Casablanca

Casablanca, Dec. 14. A small observation plane buzzed over this half a million population North African city today as a reminder that the French are keeping a sharp watch to nip in the bud any renewal of nationalist disorder.

Troops had been withdrawn from the streets which looked quite normal again but they stood by in barracks, ready to pounce in case of trouble. An occasional light armoured vehicle whizzed by on patrol.

A sign of French determination to maintain order firmly was given in newspaper pictures today of 20 fieldguns being unloaded in port here. They were said to be of the most modern design.

The police continued to round up suspected leaders behind the disturbances of last week. It was reported from Meknes that Dr. Rames, well-known figure of the Moroccan Communist Party, had been arrested and will be taken to France.

Two European Communist railway employees were also picked up at Meknes and it was expected that they too would be taken to Paris.

The French Press agency said today that the meteorological station at the United States Bouhad-base, between Rabat and Casablanca, had been destroyed by a petrol dump explosion last night.

The cause of the explosion was unknown.

General Augustin Guillaume, as Resident-General, the chief representative of French authority in French Morocco, flew off to Paris today. He will report to Prime Minister Antoine Pinay.—Reuter.

Taximen To Protect Themselves

Singapore, Dec. 14. Taximen of this city are planning secret signals to fight the growing number of organised robberies of taxi drivers.

Explaining this measure the secretary of the Singapore Taxi Drivers Union, Goh Ah Nee, said when a taxi driver is suspicious of the motives of his passenger he will pass a signal to another taxi man who will immediately bring help.

Mr Goh said the signals will be changed every week and, if necessary, every day to maintain the secrecy of the signals.

In recent weeks taximen had been robbed almost every day. A police spokesman said "We will give all assistance to the taximen to wipe out the menace."

The Hire Cars Association, owners of taxis, announced its intention to petition the City Council for permission for drivers to refuse fares and strike back if they are assaulted.—United Press.

Blizzards Sweep Northern British Isles

London, Dec. 14. Blizzards swept the northern British Isles today with up to seven inches of snow smothering the bleak Orkney and Shetland Islands in their worst wintry storm in 10 years.

Drifts cut off Orkney's two main towns—Stromness and Kirkwall, only 15 miles apart—and even ploughs were unable to clear the connecting road.

Gales forced shipping to cover off the Scottish coast and pelting the Shetlands with hail most of the day.

London enjoyed a comparatively mild winter day. Some sections of Southern England and Wales reported freezing temperatures and snow, however, with icy highways.

Convinced Solution Can Be Speeded

DEEDS NEEDED, NOT WORDS

New York, December, 14. President-elect Dwight Eisenhower returned from Korea today confident that a solution to war can be "speeded" if the United States uses deeds instead of words to induce the Communists to want peace.

"This journey marks not an end but the beginning of a new effort to conclude honourably this phase of the global struggle," Gen. Eisenhower said in a prepared statement issued upon his arrival at 1.03 p.m., GMT.

"This is not a moment to state more than that resolve. For we face an enemy whom we cannot hope to impress by words however eloquent, but only by deeds—executed under circumstances of our own choosing."

The President-elect, smiling and looking fit after the "expedition" during which he travelled 20,000 miles by air and sea, said the following steps should be taken:

1. Training of South Korean troops "can and should be expedited and speeded. This is my opinion and the unanimous opinion of the commanders at the scene. I hope and believe that our fighting men in Korea shall not harbour the thought that they might be fighting a forgotten war. I believe that the culprit of aggression can be made to realise that it would be a fatal folly to ignore the conflict elsewhere in the world. I believe that if we think clearly enough, plan carefully enough and work tirelessly enough, we can both save freedom and secure peace."
2. "In the strictly military sphere, certain problems of supply have reached rather serious proportions and require an early consideration."
3. "Everyone must recognise in both thinking and planning that the Korean war is only the most dramatic and most painful phase for us at this moment of our worldwide struggle against Communist aggression."
4. The President-elect added that "what I can publicly report is necessarily limited" because he is not yet a President and because of security needs.
5. Gen. Eisenhower's Military Air Transport Constellation pulled up to the Marine air terminal at La Guardia airport at 2.07 p.m., ending his 15-day trip. Wearing a heavy overcoat, Gen. Eisenhower waved his hat to a crowd of several thousand persons.
6. AN EXPEDITION. In informal remarks into a battery of television, radio and newsreel microphones, the President-elect declared that his trip had been an "expedition" to make a starting place for a positive programme in his administration. "Because one also wants peace in Korea will not make peace," he said, "we must go ahead and do things to induce the other side to want it."

Ship Refloated

Hamburg, Dec. 14. The 9,065-ton British ship Mantola, which ran aground at Wedel, near here, last night, resumed her voyage today after she had worked herself free under her own power.

The Mantola, owned by the British Steam Navigation Company of Glasgow, is bound from Hamburg to Port Sudan.—Reuter.



A relic of World War II is this German two-man submarine which was found buried in the sand near Alkmaar, about 20 miles from Amsterdam, Holland. A torpedo was attached to the submarine. —London Express.

China Cables Rejection Of Truce Plan

New York, Dec. 14. The Chinese Premier and Foreign Minister, Mr. Chou En-lai, today called the United Nations Assembly President, Mr. Lester Pearson, that China formally rejected the United Nations Korea peace resolution, known as the Indian Plan, according to radio reports received here.

Mr. Pearson called the Chinese and North Korean Governments on December 5 appealing to them to agree to the Indian peace plan, approved by the United Nations General Assembly with an overwhelming majority.

The plan proposed an immediate cease fire to be followed by the establishment of a special commission to arrange the repatriation of prisoners of war—only issue now blocking a Korea armistice.—Reuter.

New Formula For Settling Oil Dispute

Teheran, Dec. 14. The evening Ettelaat reported today that the Mossadegh Cabinet has been conferring for the past four nights on the terms of a prospective oil settlement proposal of which it has been informed by Allahyar Saleh, Iranian Ambassador in Washington.

The paper quoted informed political circles that the projected formula provides for the payment of a lump sum by the World Bank to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company as compensation for the company's Iranian properties in return for which AIOC would abandon all claims and permit American oil companies to buy Iranian oil.

The Bank's advance would be repaid by Iran over a period of years from oil revenues.

The formula is to be discussed by Mr. Dean Acheson, US Secretary of State, and Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, at their Paris meeting, the report continued.

Ettelaat also quoted Abbas Farahidi, the nationalised oil company's Sales Manager, that such a formula would be acceptable if it means that AIOC stops aside, opening the way for American purchasers.—Associated Press.

Britain To Request Bigger Say In Pacific Defence

London, Dec. 15. The Prime Minister, Mr. Winston Churchill, indicated today that Britain, Australia and New Zealand would jointly ask Washington to give Britain a bigger say in Pacific defence plans.

A cryptic announcement from No. 10 Downing Street, the Prime Minister's office, said: "The Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand took the opportunity provided by the Commonwealth economic conference to discuss the situation in the Pacific and problems of Southeast Asia."

"They reached complete understanding with regard to certain fundamental propositions which will in due course be the subject of friendly discussion with their ally the United States."

Downing Street and Foreign Office spokesmen refused to elaborate on the announcement and declined to say whether it meant the three powers would ask for British admission to the Pacific defence pact.

Informed sources said, however, the announcement indicated agreement that Britain should be given a stronger say in Pacific defence planning.

A "SNUB" Australia, New Zealand and the United States formed ANZUS without inviting Britain. Britain from Mr Churchill down was angered by what it considered a "snub". The British said both Australia and New Zealand were members of the Commonwealth, that they gave allegiance to the same Queen, that they always co-operated with Britain in time of war.

The British added that they had vital interests in the Pacific area, including Malaya, Singapore and Hongkong.

Mr Churchill conferred last weekend at the Prime Minister's country residence Chequers, with the Australian and New Zealand Prime Ministers. ANZUS was the chief topic. When ANZUS was formed, neither Australia nor New Zealand apparently felt it necessary to include Britain. In World War II it was the United States which was more able to come to their aid.—United Press.

Coal Mines Liftmen Strike

Doncaster, Dec. 15. Coal production in two-thirds of Yorkshire's 115 pits which make up Britain's biggest coalfield will be reduced today by a wage strike of nearly 600 liftmen, the men who work the lifts.

The strike has been condemned by the National Union of Miners but members of the Yorkshire Winding Engineers Association voted for strike action yesterday.

Yorkshire's coal production of nearly a million tons each week is the highest output of any region in Britain.—Reuter.

British Socialists Seek New Policy

London, Dec. 14. British Socialist leaders tonight ended two days of policy-making without disclosing whether the feud between Bevanites and the rest is healed.

But the party secretary, Mr. Morgan Phillips, announced that the 27-member executive had agreed unanimously on the need for a new economic policy.

Mr. Phillips said they had an "extremely successful" weekend and would publish their new policy next spring. Indications after the talks were that the Labour chiefs had come closer to each other than at any time in recent months. The signs are that at least a truce has been arranged so that the party can fight with apparent unity against the Conservatives.

ELECTION FORECAST

Many Socialists forecast an election after Queen Elizabeth's coronation next year. They recognise that prolonged bickering can only lose them votes and some have pressed for concessions to leftwing America. Bevan's "more socialism" demands.

This executive project into Britain's economic difficulties mainly the problem of earning enough dollars. Mr. Bevan and his supporters agreed with party leader Attlee and the right-wing that Britain needed a plan to bolster her economy and help other Commonwealth nations in the sterling area.

The Labour plan, Mr. Phillips said afterwards, would seek a rapid rise in production, particularly in the basic industries.

Labour chiefs indicated that they had discussed proposals for more state control of industry. Party chiefs will have talks with trades union leaders, aimed at a joint policy.

The party's small policy committee will examine tomorrow the findings of the weekend conference and sub-committees will be set up to write the new platform.—Reuter.

Police Break Up Meeting

Frankfurt, Dec. 14. The police broke up a meeting of the anti-Communist Free German Youth League in Frankfurt today and seized loaded gas pistols, life preservers and daggers. The police said they took action because the body had close connections with a partisan group, which according to a Heissen government announcement two months ago, intended "liquidating" prominent West German Communists if Russia attacked Western Germany.—Reuter.

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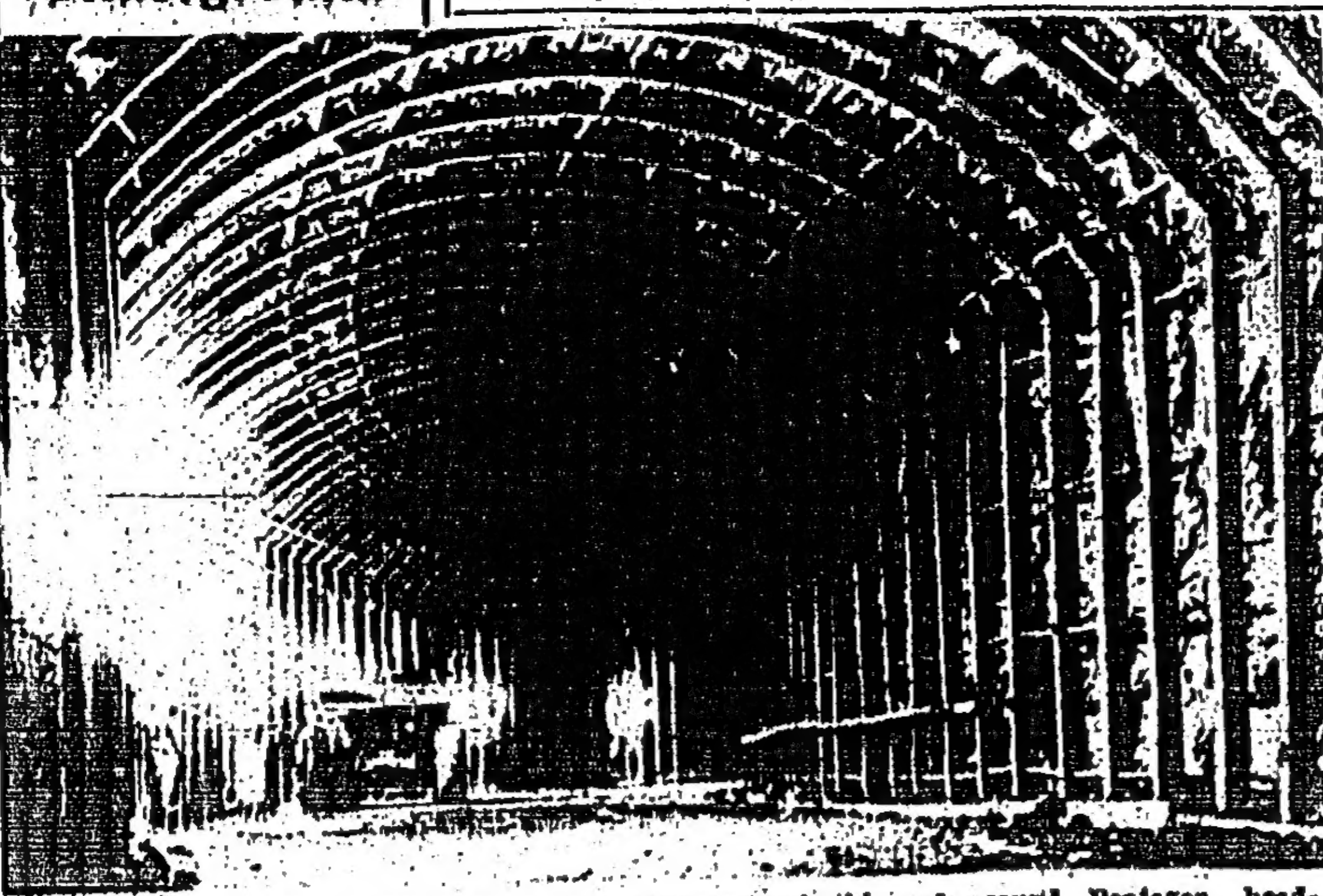
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Pentagon Goes Underground



Under construction 65 miles north of Washington is this underground Pentagon, headquarters of the U.S. Army. The three-story underground building, protected by heavy steel doors, is designed to withstand an atomic bomb attack. — Express Photo.

Butler Urged To Institute Tax Cuts

London, Dec. 14. The Association of British Chambers of Commerce tonight called on Mr. Richard Butler, Chancellor of the Exchequer, to reduce Government expenditure drastically in his budget next April. In a letter to Mr. Butler, the Association — representing all Chambers of Commerce in Britain — calculates that central and local government taxes put 35 per cent on to the selling price of British industry's goods and services. The letter calls for a reduction in income tax, and reform of the depreciation allowances and the purchase tax. A cut of sixpence a gallon in the petrol duty, to reduce transport costs, and the restoration of the duty-free import of machinery not obtainable in Britain are also urged. — Reuter.

JAPAN-ITALY TRADE PACT

Tokyo, Dec. 14. The business paper Nihon Keizai said today that an Italy-Japan \$26,000,000 trade and payment agreement will be signed here this week.

The contents of the agreement are:

1. The two countries export and import \$13,000,000 worth of goods annually.
2. Japan mainly will export steel material, copper, silk products and general merchandise while Italy will export rice, salt, cars and general merchandise.
3. Trade settlements are based on dollar open account. — Associated Press.

Iranian Denounces Pact With Russia

Teheran, Dec. 14. Nasser Zolfaghari, a Deputy from Zanjan, today denounced the Caspian Sea fisheries, jointly operated by Iran and Russia under a 25-year-old concession agreement.

He called them "an espionage, sabotage and agitation centre," threatening Iranian independence.

In a defiant address to the Majlis, Zolfaghari, who is leader of the tribe of the same name, said he was probably endangering his life by revealing the secrets of the Soviet espionage-agitation programme in Iran, but proceeded to read the names of Russians he said were directing these activities.

He charged that fisheries accounts were forged to finance Turkish activities and asserted the fisheries bosses were actually importing weapons in boxes used for fish.

The fisheries also control the infiltration of Communist agents on fishing boats and the despatch of secret information to Africa, he added.

He denounced the fisheries as an imperialist cancerous organisation which disregarded Iranian labour laws and keeps workers in poverty as well as ignoring the regulations of the concession agreement.

QUICK ACTION

Zolfaghari demanded that the Government claim the running of the fisheries as soon as possible in order to abolish the espionage centre and cut the channel of aid money to Iranian Communists.

Canadian Distrust Of US Foreign Policy

New Haven, Conn., Dec. 14.

Dr. Frederick M. Watkins, Professor of Political Science at Yale University, said today that Canada distrusted the United States foreign policy as "unwise and impulsive" and feared it would explode the Korean conflict into a third world war.

In an address prepared for use in a Yale University radio programme, the said Canadian has a deep appreciation of the American efforts to organise Western resistance to Soviet aggression, but doubts the capacity of American statesmanship to live up to its responsibilities.

Professor Watkins recently joined the Yale University faculty after serving since 1948 as Professor of Political Science at McGill University in Montreal.

Commenting that Canadian distrust of the American policy threatened the two countries' historic friendship, he said: "The feeling of these Canadians is that the interest of Canada and the other Western nations are constantly being jeopardised by inept decisions over which they have no control."

As a result, many Canadian leaders were looking to the recently-ended Commonwealth conference in London to strengthen Commonwealth ties, he added.

ECONOMIC WORRIES

These leaders believed a strong Commonwealth was "the only force capable of exerting pressure on the United States and thus restraining the more irresponsible manifestations of American foreign policy."

"Mr. Dwight Eisenhower's election as President has failed to produce any upsurge of confidence in the United States foreign policy, either in Canada or elsewhere," Professor Watkins declared.

Although Mr. Eisenhower was personally popular in Canada, he was associated in the minds of many Canadians with the Republicans who they in turn associated with the policy of high tariff protection.

Canada and the other Western nations were therefore worrying about their economic prospects with the forthcoming Republican administration in Washington, he said. — Reuter.

MAKING IT OFFICIAL

New York, Dec. 14.

Mr. Dwight Eisenhower takes another formal step towards becoming President of the United States tomorrow when 531 members of the Electoral College meet in state capitals to cast their ballots.

When Americans went to the polls on November 4 they were actually choosing members of the Electoral College — which never meets as a body — and were not voting for one or the other of the presidential candidates.

But Electoral College members pledged themselves in advance to vote for Mr. Eisenhower or Adlai Stevenson. The presidential candidate gaining a majority of the popular ballots in any State receives the votes of all that State's electoral votes, the number of these in each State being based on the size of its population.

Bearing some totally unexpected developments, the electoral voters tomorrow will cast 442 ballots for Mr. Eisenhower and 89 for Mr. Stevenson.

Then the votes will be sent to the presiding officer of the Senate in Washington. The final official seal will be stamped on Mr. Eisenhower's election on January 6 when the Senate's presiding officer counts the electoral votes. — Reuter.

Labour Mission To Africa

London, Dec. 14.

A delegation of leading members of the Labour Party are to visit West Africa at the end of the month to study economic and political developments in Nigeria, the Gold Coast, Sierra Leone and Gambia.

The parliamentary opposition party announced this today and said that the mission will spend five weeks in the area. — Reuter.

Saudi Arabia Bans Imports From Cyprus

Nicosia, Dec. 14.

Saudi Arabia has banned all imports from Cyprus, merchants here were told by their Saudi Arabian agents today.

It is understood that the move is a protest against the amount of trading between Cyprus and Israel.

Observers here believe that Saudi Arabia's decision has been dictated by the Israel boycott committee of the Arab League and that it may be followed by similar steps by other Arab countries.

The Cyprus Government, at the request of chambers of commerce, is making representations with Saudi Arabia through London.

Saudi Arabia annually buys some 80,000 cases of oranges and 1,000 tons of potatoes from Cyprus. Total exports from Cyprus to Saudi Arabia last year amounted to £34,000. In the first 10 months of this year, imports rose to £55,000. — Reuter.

Showing Them How

Berlin, Dec. 14.

Special Communist workers have been sent into East German hard coal pits to show re-education coal miners how to increase production by Soviet methods, says the Soviet Zone News Agency. — Associated Press.

Unique Pictures Of Moon To Be Revealed Today

Washington, Dec. 14.

A picture of man's closest look at the moon through the world's most powerful telescope will be unveiled on Monday.

It will show features on a planet as small as the Pentagon building, the National Geographic Society announced today.

The Society said the 160-mile-wide crater Clavius shows up clearly on the uncratered surface of the moon, as do pits in the crater's 12,000-foot-high walls.

The pictures of the moon will go on display along with two close-ups of Mars and one each of Jupiter, Venus and Saturn.

The photographs were taken by the giant 200-inch telescope at Mt. Palomar in Southern California under the direction of Dr. Milton L. Humanson, Secretary of the California Institute of Technology's Mt. Wilson and Palomar observatories.

In one photograph of the planet Mars, observers can see white areas at the poles, probably fog banks above layers of snow.

On the other picture of Mars appear large dark areas which, astronomers think, might be vegetation, since they reflect a blue-green colour in the Martian Spring and brown in the Autumn.

SATURN'S RINGS
The shot of Venus depicts the planet as a "moon-like crescent" with only part of its surface highlighted by the sun.

The rings of Saturn can be plainly seen in another photograph but because of the angle at which the shot was made only the separation between the outer two of the three rings can be seen easily.

The Society said the photograph of Jupiter shows broad alternate bands of white and dark which indicate clouds in patterns resembling parallels of latitude. It

is possible also to see Jupiter's great red spot, an elliptical marking which has puzzled astronomers since its discovery in 1678.

For display, the photographs have been enlarged to about 3½ by 4½ feet. The Society said they will appear in the January issue of its magazine. — Associated Press.

HONGKONG **QUEEN'S PRINCESS** KOWLOON

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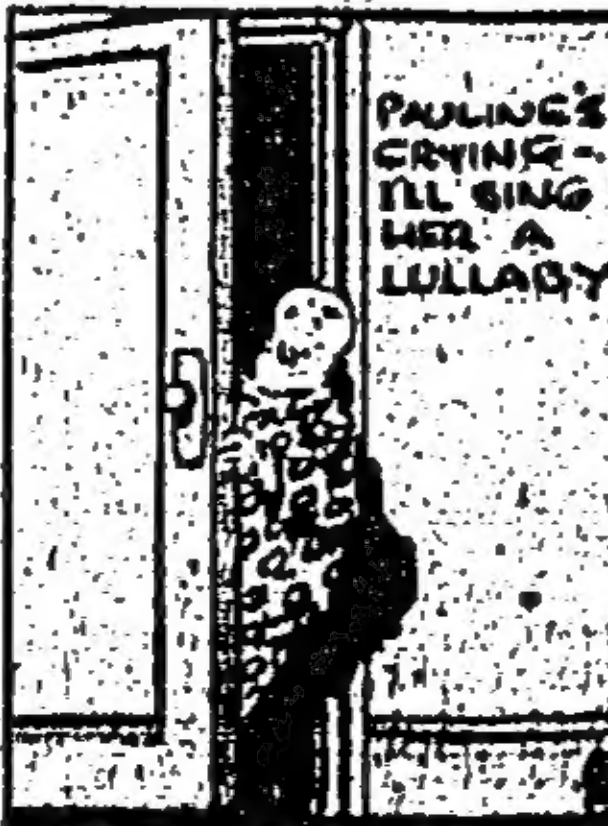
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Egypt-Syria Pact Said Concluded

Cairo, Dec. 14.

Armoured forces rumbled past two military "strong men" of the Arab world, Prime Minister General Mohammed Naguib of Egypt and Colonel Adib Shishakly of Syria, at a big military parade today.

The parade climaxed a series of military and political talks, reported to be of paramount importance, between the two soldier-statesmen this week-end.

Squadrons of jet planes roared overhead as the two men, the dominant figures of the Arab world, today took the salute in Cairo's Liberty Square.

Colonel Shishakly, who led the military coup in Syria in November last year, is here for military, political and financial talks with the Egyptian Prime Minister, whose military government ousted King Farouk.

Diplomatic observers here believe the two men have forged a common front within the framework of the Arab League's collective security pact.

This front, it is believed, is aimed at "neutralising" Israel and strengthening the Arab bargaining hand in dealing with the Western powers on Middle East defence.

Colonel Shishakly said later: "The Arab peoples are ready to strike back at anyone who tries to encroach upon our sacred rights."

"A NEW ERA" Addressing General Naguib and Egyptian officers at the Cavalry Club, he said: "We want to extend the friendly hand to those who seek peace with us and wage war against those who want to fight us. The Arab family will not allow anybody to draw a map of the Middle East without our full consent and participation."

Egypt and Syria are beginning a new era of close co-operation. The Arab peoples want to lead a free life and establish friendly relations with all other countries without discrimination as long as our national interests are safeguarded."

Colonel Shishakly appealed for unity of all Arabs into a strong nation.

Colonel Shishakly, in his address, pledged to General Naguib, the Egyptian army and people that "Syria will go ahead hand-in-hand with Egypt till both countries victoriously fulfil the complete liberty of all Arabs."

Colonel Shishakly praised the army movements of Egypt and Syria for saving the two countries from the "tyranny and corruption" of the old regimes.

READY TO HIT BACK He said: "While rejoicing in the victories of our peoples, I plead to you to work for wider, more complete and more effective unity of Arab countries and all Arabs."

Colonel Shishakly said, "It is now time to strengthen unity into an effective power that will seek peace with our friends and fight our enemies."

"Only a strong Arab family will be able to impose its policy and dictate its will in this strategic area of the world."

"We are nations that wish to live independent and to create friendship with all nations of the world. We will not differentiate between different world powers unless this is dictated by the high interests of our nations."

"The blood of the faithful sons of our two countries, has mixed together on the altar of our struggle for our rights during our past history."

"The blood will mix again on the same altar in our struggle for liberty of the Arabs. From this blood will shine a new dawn and a new history."

"We are now ready to hit back vigorously against any aggressor," Reuter and Associated Press.

Japan Signs Air Pact With Holland

The Hague, Dec. 14.

A reciprocal agreement allowing Japan and Holland to operate air services to and from both countries has been initiated here.

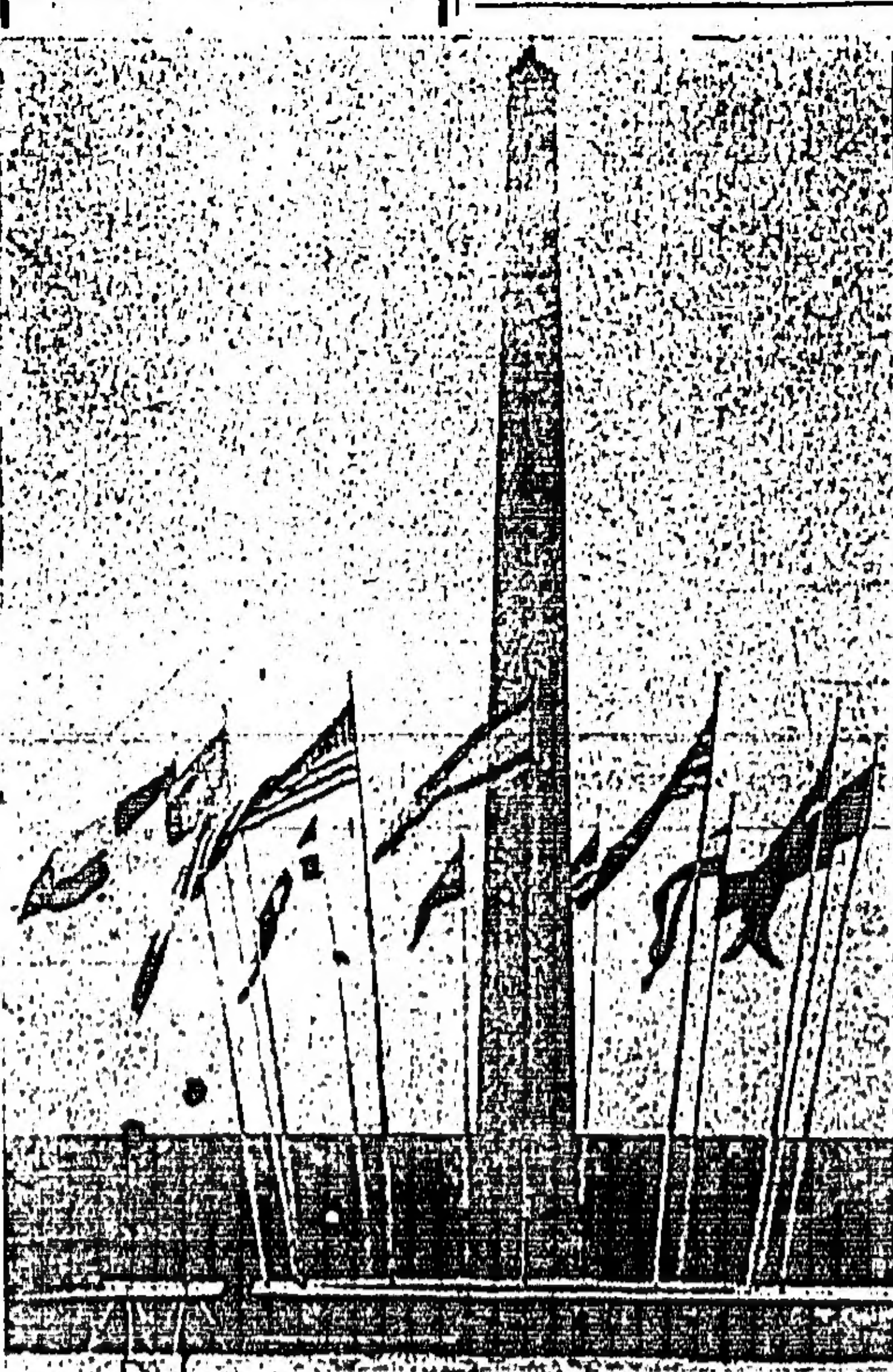
The negotiations took place between a Japanese civil aviation delegation led by the new Japanese Ambassador in Holland, Mr. Suemasa Okamoto, and a Dutch delegation headed by Mr. J. W. F. Backer, Director-General of the State Aviation Service.

KLM, Royal Dutch Airlines, opened a weekly service to and from Tokyo just 12 months ago. Japan plans to use Comets on its projected service between Tokyo and Amsterdam.

KLM, Royal Dutch Airlines, opened a weekly service to and from Tokyo just 12 months ago. Japan plans to use Comets on its projected service between Tokyo and Amsterdam.

(This was learned from the Japanese Aviation Mission when it first visited Holland last September before going to Britain, Sweden, France and the United States).—Reuter.

Monument To Nazi Victims



In the presence of the Federal Republic President, Professor Heuss, the President of the World Jewish Congress, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Minister Kopf, Prime Minister of Lower Saxony, and delegates from all parts of the world, a Memorial was recently inaugurated at Belsen Concentration Camp in memory of the victims of the Belsen horrors.—Express Photo.

Malayan Woman's Allegations At "Peace" Congress

Vienna, Dec. 14.

A Malayan woman delegate to the Peoples' Peace Congress here today accused the British of torture and indiscriminate bombing in the Federation.

The delegate, Mrs Chan Suat Hong, also alleged that the Royal Air Force used special chemicals to destroy crops in Malaya.

Mrs Chan is one of 1,500 delegates to the Congress who earlier today have a tremendous ovation to a North Korean woman delegate who told them of alleged atrocities by American troops against Korean women and children.

Mrs Chan said that Britain was using 450,000 troops and police to "beat down Malayan resistance". More than 50,000 "patriots" had been arrested, killed or deported and about 500,000 workers and peasants had been rounded up and put in resettlement areas, she alleged.

She went on to say that the British had adopted "all types of barbarous methods" in Malaya, such as reducing the rice ration, collective punishment and torture methods once used by the Japanese in the Federation.

But, she said, the present Vienna Congress would act as an inspiration to the Malayan people in their struggle to "defend their independence".

Mrs Chan also accused the United States of "frenzied war preparations" which, she said, affected the Malayan people who wanted the withdrawal of foreign troops and self-determination.

"We oppose the United States plot to unleash a new war. The United States should stop its war clamour and agree to a peace pact," she said.

America had given much aid to the British in Malaya in the last six months, Mrs Chan alleged. The British "aggression" against the Malayan people had been extended to the "plundering" of Malayan wealth which brought big profits to Britain.

She demanded an immediate end to the wars in Korea, Indo-China and Malaya.

The American State Department was the target of an earlier speaker, George Zalner, who was described as a former Colombian delegate to the United Nations.

Senator Zalner claimed that the "dictatorship" which now ran Colombia had the full backing of the State Department in Washington.

He charged the Colombian Government with "unleashing a barbarism not known for some time except perhaps that exercised by Hitler's hordes in Poland and Czechoslovakia". Since 1940, the Colombian dictatorship had caused 100,000 deaths and "exiled" 300,000 people, he alleged.

Yoshiko Kawai, 29, today confessed that over the last six years she had strangled five babies to death after they were born, the police said.

Police alleged that Kawai, the wife of a mechanic, had committed the murders so that she could send her two other children to an expensive school.—Reuter.

Tokyo, Dec. 14. Pope Pius XII will celebrate Christmas Midnight Mass in the chapel of his Vatican apartment, it was announced today.

As in the past, only members of the Diplomatic Corps at the Vatican and members of certain Roman families will be invited to attend.—Associated Press.

LOSING MILLIONS IN WITH CHINA Complaint Made By British MPs

London, Dec. 13.

An all-party group of Parliamentarians today complained that each year Britain lost millions of pounds Sterling worth of trade with China to European countries—especially to Germany.

Britain's competitors are getting the orders, because the Board of Trade—responsible for issuing export licences—is going far beyond the United Nations resolution designed to cut off supplies of arms, ammunition and strategically valuable materials, the group said.

The group—the British Council for the Promotion of International Trade—said that the lost trade was mostly in drugs.

They instanced a recent £2,000,000 order for which the Board of Trade refused to issue a licence. The drugs are now being supplied to China by West Germany from the Council said.

Drugs apart from export orders for machinery, cables, ropes and many other articles which could be swelling Britain's foreign earnings, were going to Germany, France, Japan and other Western firms, the Council said in a statement issued today.

"British firms are quite ready to supply most of these goods at the right prices and with quick delivery. Many of the goods in question cannot easily be sold elsewhere," the statement said.

A Labour member of Parliament, Dr Barnett Stross, is to ask the President of the Board of Trade, Mr Peter Thorneycroft, about the Council's complaint in a Commons question next Tuesday.

INDUSTRY'S FEARS He will ask Mr Thorneycroft if he is aware that West German firms are exporting to China anti-biotics and sulfa drugs for which his department will not give a licence to export to China to British manufacturers.

The question will also ask whether in the circumstances, the President will remove these two groups of drugs from the list of strategic supplies, which are banned as exports to China.

"The pharmaceutical industry fears that once the Chinese become accustomed to German or other foreign products, they will not be likely to revert to British supplies. In other words the setback to British trade is not a temporary but a permanent one," the statement said.

The Council's statement today maintained that in applying restrictions on trade with China, other countries were adhering more closely to the terms and intentions of the United Nations resolution.

This resolution was "aimed only at denying China armaments and equipment of a specifically strategic kind."

EXPANDING MARKET "Since British firms are refused the opportunity of meeting Chinese requirements for peaceful industrial processes, agricultural development and public health, the Chinese have been forced in many cases to place their orders on the Continent of Europe."

"The longer the anomalous position is allowed to go on the more harmful will be its effects on British trade. China is just embarking on a vast programme of industrial and general economic development. It is a market which is likely to expand rapidly."

Mr Roland Berger, Executive Secretary to the Council, said today that it was comprised of Members of Parliament of the major parties—Conservatives and Socialists—with Lord Boyd Orr as President.

"The Council is non-political and seeks to promote international trade by breaking down artificial barriers to it," Mr Berger told Reuter.—Reuter.

Mr Gordon-Walker also regretted that the communiqué did not contain a single mention of improved means of consultation and decision between the Commonwealth nations on economic matters.—Reuter.

Menzie's Visit To Brussels

Brussels, Dec. 14.

King Baudouin of the Belgians will grant an audience to the Australian Prime Minister, Mr Robert Menzie's, during Mr Menzie's official visit to Belgium on Monday and Tuesday.

Mr Menzie's is also expected to lay a wreath on the tomb of Belgium's Unknown Warrior during his visit.

On Monday night, the British Ambassador, Sir Christopher Warner, will give a dinner party for Mr Menzie's.

The Prime Minister is spending the week-end as a guest of Lady Astor at Cliveden. He will fly to Brussels on Monday and will leave Amsterdam on Tuesday for New York. He is expected to arrive back in Sydney on Christmas Eve.—Reuter.

Tito Mission In India

New Delhi, Dec. 14.

A five-man Yugoslav mission, led by Rodoljub Colakovic, Federal Minister for Education, arrived here today.

The Yugoslav mission, the first from Europe to visit India since she gained her independence, will be the guests of the State during their month's tour of the country.—Reuter.

Envoy At Vatican

Vatican City, Dec. 14.

Mr Bernard Mars, new Egyptian Ambassador to the Holy See, presented his credentials today to Pope Pius XII.—Reuter.

TRADE

Novel Form Of Protest

Madras, Dec. 14.

The halting of trains for Madras running through the Telugu-speaking area by thousands of discontented demonstrators is the latest form of agitation to sympathise with Potti Srimulu, 28, who has fasted for 56 days to get the immediate formation of an Andhra State.

Police now lead such trains as the Calcutta Mail. A railway official told the Associated Press: "It is a headache, overwhelming because the demonstrators disconnect couplings and let out steam and water from the engines."—Associated Press.

Greetings Over Air

Tokyo, Dec. 15.

The Shikoku Broadcasting Company, on Shikoku, Japan's Southwestern island, today announced it would allow, any person to broadcast on New Year's Day message to anybody for two minutes for 70 yen (about 1s 3d).—Reuter.

16. T. LYDIA BAILEY
17. W. CANNAN
18. T. Mr. Deeds Goes to Town
19. F. Virginia City
20. S. Fabiola
21. S. Tap Root
22. M. Call Me Mister

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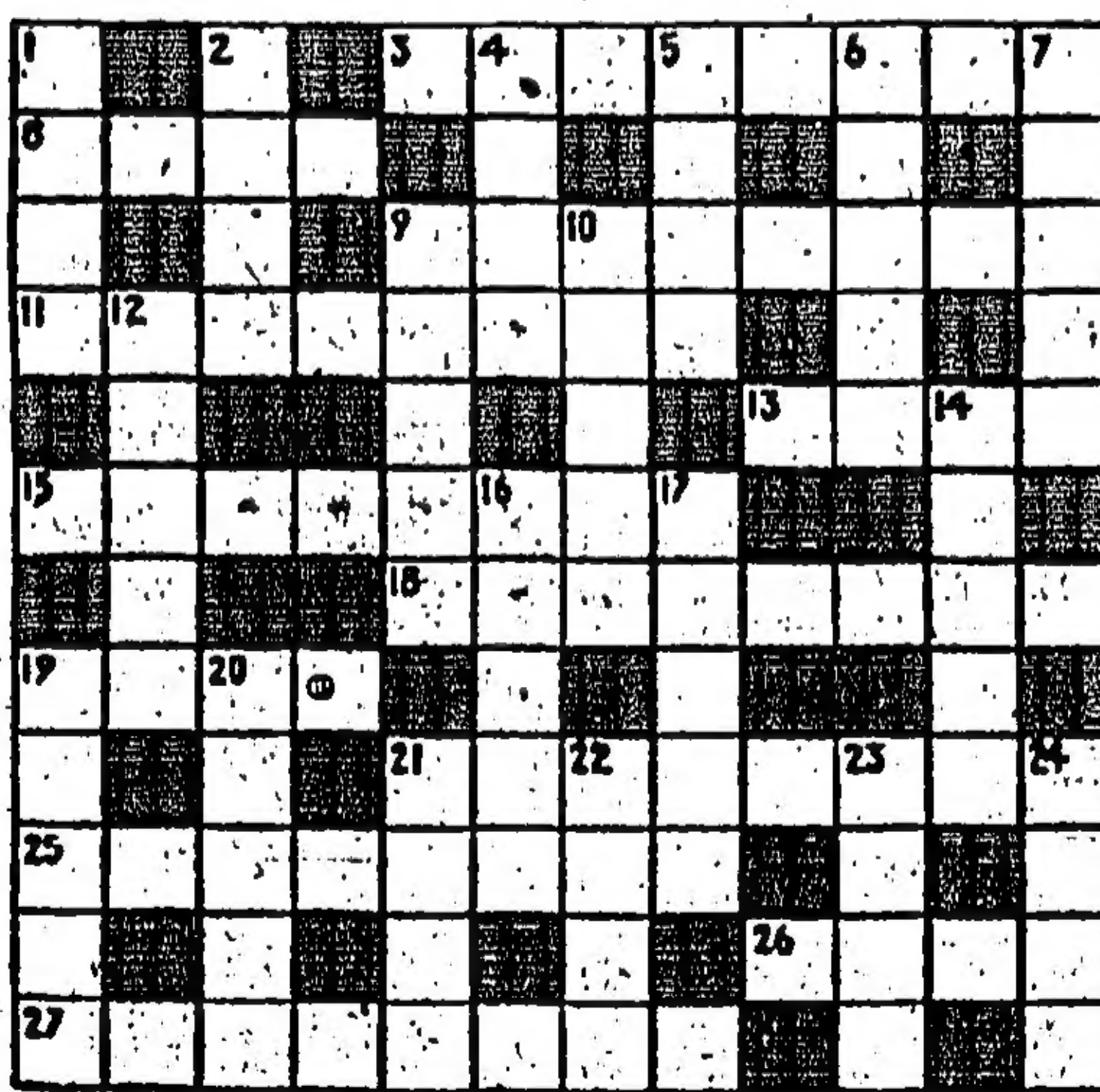
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A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS:
- 3 Columnnates (8)
 - 8 Actual (4)
 - 9 Retiree (8)
 - 11 Ecclesiastical dignitaries (8)
 - 13 Before long (4)
 - 16 Supplies (8)
 - 18 Business chief (8)
 - 20 Verve (4)
 - 21 Earned (8)
 - 25 Set free (8)
 - 26 Hoop (4)
 - 27 Withdraws (8)
- DOWN:
- 1 Snare (4)
 - 2 Low freshness (4)
 - 4 Animal fat (4)
 - 5 Observes (4)
 - 6 Numerical (8)
 - 7 Carrying-chair (5)
 - 9 Mind (6)
 - 10 Drain (8)
 - 12 Rustic (8)
 - 14 Healthy atmosphere (8)
 - 16 Plunges (6)
 - 17 Sifted (8)
 - 19 Mistake (8)
 - 20 Distribute (8)
 - 21 Facts (4)
 - 22 Denomination (4)
 - 23 Concealed (4)
 - 24 Profound (4)

SATURDAY'S CROSSWORD: Across: 1. Murder, 4. Sharp, 7. Disaster, 8. Irons, 9. Louisa, 11. Around, 13. Primato, 16. Rector, 19. Avert, 20. Executed, 20. Evers, 21. Tiller, Down: 1. Model, 2. Drawn, 3. Retreat, 4. Strike, 5. Absolute, 6. Paused, 10. Universe, 12. Serpent, 13. Frate, 14. Avert, 16. Cruel, 17. Tumor.

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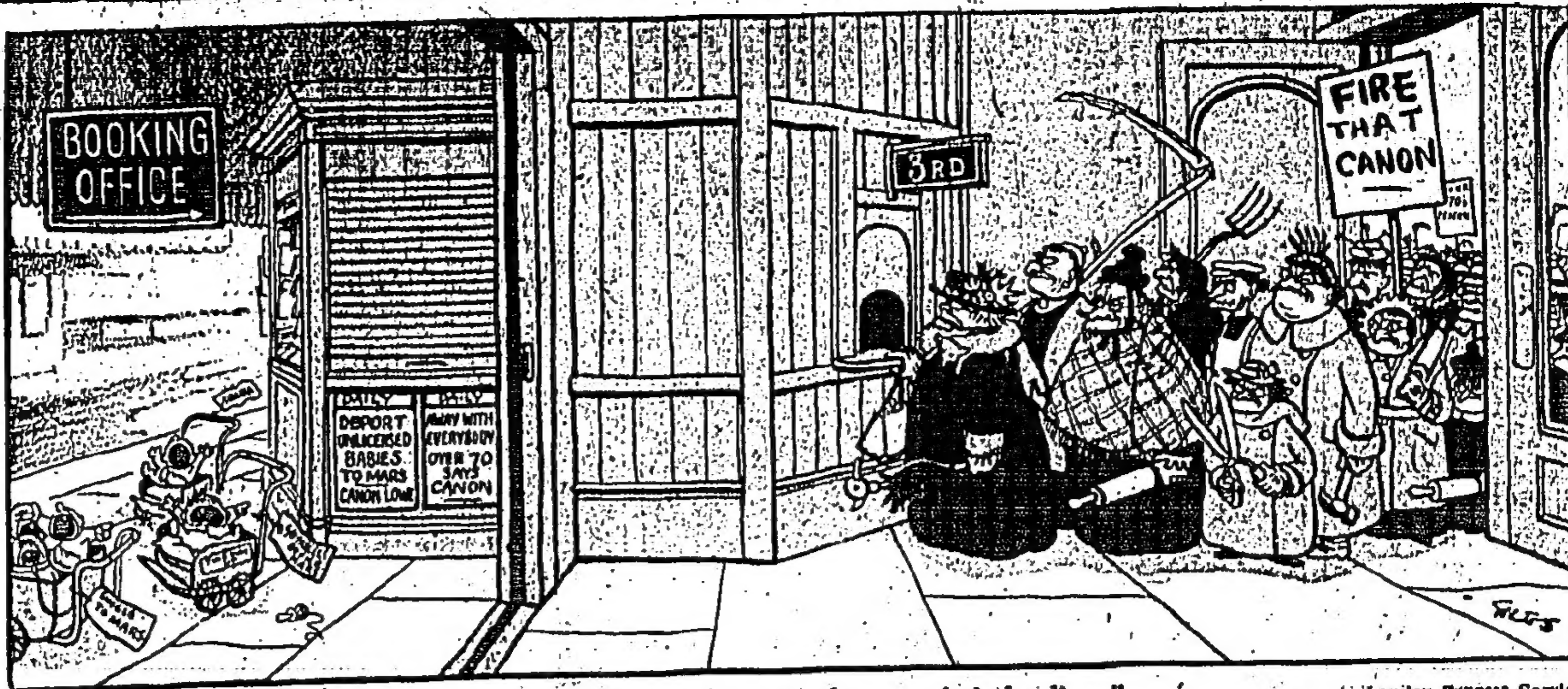
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"There are no signs to guide them...."

THE SOCIALISTS AT THE CROSSROADS

By Beverley Baxter, MP

WHAT does a detective do when he is not being baffled? That question is always good for a laugh in an English music hall, or at any rate it was until it grew rather stale. But today in Britain we are inclined to ask "What does a Socialist Party do when everybody is a Socialist of one sort or another?"

Day after day, and night after night, I sit in the House of Commons watching Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition, up a towering rage against Her Majesty's Government. They tell us Tories that we are putting back the clock. They say that we are ancient relics left over from the Victorian and Edwardian eras, and that Churchill is no more than a hairy Briton wielding an axe and painting himself in wood to terrify the savages.

They predict that when the deluded electorate gets its next chance to throw us out we will not only be annihilated but obliterated. The odd thing is that they do not really believe it, and neither do we. No one knows when the next General Election will take place, but every now and then there is a bye-election in which a constituency is able to indicate the trend of public opinion.

BYE-ELECTION

SUCH a bye-election occurred a few weeks ago when the sitting Tory member, W.W. Astor, was raised to the peerage by the death of his father, Lord Astor. Merely as a matter of interest I must inform you that Bill Astor's mother is the famous Nancy from down South in America.

Bill Astor was not a very formidable M.P. and had only won the seat in 1951 by a majority of about 2,000. In 1945 and 1950 the constituency, which has the attractive name of High Wycombe, was held by a vigorous young Socialist named John Hale, but he lost it in 1951. However, Hale was duly re-elected for this bye-election.

Just as we add to the historical background, may I report that the great Disraeli's country house was in High Wycombe, where he was three times rejected by the electorate. High Wycombe is about 30 miles northwest of London. It has one big town with a substantial furniture industry which, at the time of the bye-election, was suffering from a measure of unemployment. It also has 52 villages spread over a very large area. Lastly, it is a dormitory constituency in which hundreds of businessmen go to London for their work and come back to High Wycombe to sleep. In other words, this is a constituency which might well be regarded as a cross-section of the nation as a whole.

FULL VOLTAGE

BOTH sides fought with every gun they could muster. Churchill sent a message of goodwill. Eden did a whistle-stop tour in which he turned on his charm at full voltage and, coming down the scale, they sent a dozen Tory M.P.s to address meetings. Blazing up the situation, I reported to the House that we ought to win by a slightly increased majority. Actually we won by an increased majority.

of about 400, which was small enough, yet was significant. The Socialists fought on an agreed plan. They stressed the unemployment. In the furniture industry, they pictured the Tories as the party of Big Business; they denounced everybody who earned more than £1,000 a year as parasites living on the sweat and tears of the industrial and agricultural workers.

And the verdict of High Wycombe was to return the Tory to Westminster.

To be perfectly fair I must admit that in the fight we played up the split in the Socialist Party to the limit. We said that a vote for the Socialist was a vote for wild man. Bevan, I do not doubt that Bevanism helped us quite a lot. Yet I claim that the vote of High Wycombe was a true picture of what is going on in the minds of the British people at this moment. If it changes I pledge my word that I shall report it without bias.

AN IDEA

THE truth is that the Socialist Party of Great Britain is finding itself in the same position as socialists were in Britain in 1940 when, since we were expecting an invasion by the Germans, all road signs were removed. In that period I once had to drive from Liverpool to London and it took me 18 hours. Not only were there no signs at the crossroads, but the inhabitants who had been warned, would not give any assistance.

How can the Socialists find the road to power? What have they to offer which will induce the electorate to throw out the Conservatives? The welfare state has been established but it was supported and, in fact, originated as an idea by the Tories. I do not doubt that the Socialists created it more swiftly and on a bigger scale than we would have done, but the issue simply does not divide the parties.

To the eternal credit of the Socialists in power, they brought in conscription and pledged Britain to full participation in the defence of Western Europe. Fate moves in a mysterious way, and perhaps the most fortunate thing that could have happened was the sweeping victory of the Socialists in 1945.

REARMAMENT

IF we had won that election it is probable that the Socialists, aided by the trade unions, would have opposed conscription as a Tory plan to destroy the rights of the individual. Conscription is not a thing that can be effectively carried merely by a majority in the division lobbies. It must have the broad support of all parties.

The same thing applies to the huge sums voted for rearmament. Mr. Attlee's Government, which introduced this strong peace-time measure, had the full support of the Tories. If the situation had been reversed it is by no means certain that we would have had similar collaboration from the Socialists and the trade unions.

No alliance could have seemed less likely to break up than that of the Socialist Party and the trade unions. They were born of the same mother, linked by a common outlook and tradition. While the trade unions fought the day to day battle with the employers for better pay and conditions, the Labour Party fought the battle for political supremacy. Since the Socialists lacked the funds on which the Conservatives can always rely, the trade unions had to be the providers of finance for the Labour Party.

It is one of the weaknesses of all left-wing parties that they become intoxicated with slogans on their way to power. The Socialists put in the forefront of their propaganda the cry: "We must control the means of production and distribution." Those are fine words that make a lot of sense. For a party in opposition, waging war against selfishness, of capitalism, nothing could be better.

TRADE UNIONS

AT this point I must remind you of a cynical saying in the days when I was a young fellow in Canada and there was a great mining boom in the Cebal district of Northern Ontario: "Many a good mine has been ruined by sinking a shaft." To the innocents I would explain that as long as a mine was unproved you could sell shares in it for money. But when the shaft proved that there was no ore the game was up.

When the Socialists came to power in 1945 they had to be true to their slogans. They nationalised the railways, road transport, iron and steel as well as the mines, gas and electricity undertakings. To give them credit they paid adequate compensation, but the final result was that the State became the biggest employer.

Then what role was left to the trade unions? It is true that some of their leaders were given well paid jobs on the nationalised boards—and quite rightly—while a few more were awarded knighthoods and peerages. In that the Socialists did not differ in principle from the Conservatives or Liberals. To the victors the spoils.

But what was left for the trade unions to do? Their party was in power, and controlled a vast area of services and production. You cannot strike against the State because that would be treason, and when trade unionism can no longer threaten a strike you have a lion without teeth.

AN IMPASSE

ANEURIN BEVAN saw his opportunity in this impasse. Choosing his moment and relying on the deep-seated pacifism of the Labour movement, he resigned as a Minister on the ground that the nation would not bear the burden of rearmament which the Government had forced upon the nation.

Unfortunately for himself and his supporters, Aneurin is not English—he is Welsh. In moments of crisis the Welsh are dominated by their emotions. In moments of deep crisis the English fly into a rage. Faced by the Bevan revolt, Mr. Attlee's Government did not shift its stance by so much as an inch. They would carry out their measures for defence and rearmament, quite unperturbed by the Bevan rebellion. Needless to say, Attlee had the firm support of the Tories in his policy.

But if Bevan was losing the battle in Parliament, he was winning in the constituencies. His fiery eloquence was just what the extremist Labour voters were wanting. Everyone felt that when the great showdown took place at the annual Labour Party Conference, with the Socialist Party and the trade unions gathered together, Bevan would sweep the board with his candidacies for the National Executive. And he did. It was well worth the journey.

DENUNCIATION

BUT Bevan the Welshman had not counted on the solid British sobriety of the trade unions. Men like Arthur Deakin and Sir Will Lomer, who had risen from the ranks to great power in the unions, denounced the Bevanites as hysterical relics of the dead past. "Trade unionism has won its battle," roared Deakin. "We now have our responsibility to the State. A lot of you are shouting your heads off as if we were back to the struggle of the 1890's."

Winston Churchill, although far away in London, heard this new note. He gave a dinner at No. 10 Downing Street for a visiting potentate, and among his guests were four trade union leaders. Behind this was the gesture was the plain fact that in the regime of the present Conservative Government there has been less labour trouble than in any similar period when the Socialists were in power.

In what I have written today I have tried to be scrupulously objective. Since the war I have visited Canada and the U.S.A. many times and have spoken to audiences from coast to coast. When the Socialists were in power I never failed to give them credit for the good things that they did, and I have heard that they did a great deal of good. But they were not Britishers who went abroad and maligned their own Government.

GRIM HISTORY

THEREFORE it is in no spirit of propaganda that I now state that the Socialist Party is faced with a difficult dilemma. In many ways its task is done. Let us admit its credit that it quickened the social conscience of Great Britain. By its sense of responsibility it made the workers accept the burdens of world defence. Yet in domestic affairs it did great harm by propaganda which caused the ordinary British worker to feel that the State owed more to him than he owed to the State.

The trade unions will never make an alliance with the Tories, which is as it should be. Trade unions of Britain have won an independent place in the community as a sixth estate ready to take their stand beside the Monarchy, the Church, the Courts, and the House of Commons. As Arthur Deakin said, they owe a responsibility to the nation.

Now, if I may repeat the metaphor, the Socialists have reached a crossroads, and there are no signs to guide them. On the other hand, there is the grim history of European politics to remind them that Socialism, with its well-meaning philosophy, has paved the way for Communism.

AMERICA COLUMN
from
NEWELL ROGERS

THE KISS THEY HAD TO CUT

New York. IMAGINE actress Barbara Britton coming right out of the cinema screen to meet the lips of actor Robert Stack.

It happened and 5,000 spectators in two Hollywood cinemas gasped. The censors are horrified. They ordered the kiss to be cut out of the African adventure picture, "Swann Devil."

IT WAS SHOWN as the world premiere of "Natural Vision"—which only looks natural if you wear stereoscopic spectacles or goggles. It is the rival of the Cinemascope in providing the new three-dimensional movies.

Like the Cinemascope, it takes you into the picture. Spears fly at you. Lions leap on you. A phyllophorus seems to hang in your face.

Sometimes the depth is too deep. A rifle pointed at audiences seemed to be 12 ft. long. Outstretched arms lengthened grotesquely.

EACH of these new movie systems has advantages. You do not need goggles for the Cinemascope. But "Natural Vision" is projected on an ordinary screen, whereas the Cinemascope needs a huge screen and equipment costing more than £50,000.

Waiting in the wings for its Hollywood debut next month is a British three-dimensional system, Tri-Opticon. It also needs spectacles.

PRICE CONTROLS now cover only one-third of the average U.S. family's budget. Most Americans are surprised to read that Britons will not get off the egg ration until the spring.

FOR people in Washington the really famous woman of the White House is not Mrs. Truman, but her secretary Mrs. James Meredith. Since before 1920 she has been secretary to Presidents' wives, and is noted for wit, tact, efficiency. One day a society writer telephoned her. A woman's voice said Mrs. Helm was busy. The writer said she only wanted to know what Mrs. Truman was wearing at a reception. The voice described it.

The writer thanked her and asked who was speaking. The voice: "This is Mrs. Truman. Mrs. Helm is so busy I am taking her calls."

TOO BUSY in the last two years to attend to it, Elizabeth Taylor has collected £16,860 belonging to her. It is money she earned as a minor and invested under a court order, in bonds. Husband Michael Wilding went to the courthouse with her to sign the papers.

Mr. PEET DOESN'T FOOL ROEDEAN

by WILLIAM HAMSHER

SINCE he walked out of Berlin, accords as a "regrettable necessity." **SECOND AIM:** "To report what is happening in the East German Republic." **Creditation?** Said Peet, with a catchy smile, "You can say 'creditation'—a very satisfactory and rising." **Distribution?** "Democratic German Report goes to England, the British Commonwealth, and America."

Why does he travel? To give talks at meetings in favour of Moscow's "peace-peace" campaign. Just now he is staying put—and staying within 500 yards of the boundary of Western Berlin, the boundary over which he walked to go Red. "So you see it would be only too easy for me to go back," he said. "That is, if I wanted to."

His strategic outpost of the East is at the top of three flights of narrow stairs just off Unter den Linden. Here he runs a busy little office; for John Peet is the only British Iron Curtain editor.

His eight-page paper, all in English, is called Democratic German Report, and comes out once a fortnight.

The aims of the paper, in John Peet's words, are two: **FIRST AIM:** "To warn the Western world of the dangers of a rise of a new militant in Western Germany." (Armed forces for East German's Peet)

Trade union branches have received free copies from time to time. So have colleges and schools. One reply from Oxford is on record. It runs: "Discontinue sending me German Report right away. I hope for your and my feelings that I won't have to write a second time—Peter Stiffens, Balliol."

And this from Roedeon, the 2200-a-year girls' boarding school at Brighton: "Your paper is not subtle enough to deceive English people—Christine M. Fox."

Still, as John Peet said while we signed our second cup of Swiss coffee, producing Danish crabs, German Rognon, being him on living in the (Jokes) he did it as gawky as ever he did in the days of his "Western warmongering."

Don't you see he helped by the double fakelion? (The) as a member of the Executive Intelligence of East Germany.

JACOBY ON BRIDGE

Slam Is Bid Though Partner Lacks Aces

By OSWALD JACOBY

TODAY'S hand is a sort of curiosity. South went out of his way to ask about his partner's aces, discovered that North had no ace, and then bid a grand slam anyway!

For the benefit of those who have just come in I should explain that South's bid of four no-trumps was part of the Blackwood Convention. North is supposed to respond five clubs to show no ace, five diamonds to show one ace, five hearts to show two aces, and so on.

In this case North bid five clubs to show that he had no ace. Much to everybody's surprise South then immediately contracted for a grand slam.

South made his slam with no particular trouble. Dummy's king of spades won the opening lead, and declarer, next cashed the top

NORTH 23	
♠ K5	
♥ Q1082	
♦ 85	
♣ KQJ84	
WEST EAST	
♠ J109	♠ Q8732
♥ 5	♥ 763
♦ Q1094	♦ 82
♣ A8753	♣ 1092
SOUTH (D)	
♠ A64	
♥ AKJ94	
♦ AKJ73	
♣ None	
North-South vul.	
South West North East	
1 ♠ Pass 3 ♣ Pass	
4 N.T. Pass 5 ♣ Pass	
7 ♣ Pass Pass Pass	
Opening lead—A ♠	

diamonds. He then ruffed a diamond with one of dummy's high trumps, returned to his hand with the ace of spades, and ruffed another diamond with a high trump.

Now, for the first time he led a trump, winning in his hand. This left one trump in dummy, which took care of South's remaining spades. South then ruffed a club, drew two more rounds of trumps and claimed the rest of the tricks.

North watched the play with great interest and some curiosity. (The dummy is seldom bored when the contract is a grand slam.) But when the hand was over, he asked a natural question: "What were you going to do if I showed an ace? Were you going to bid eight hearts?"

"No," South answered. "Only six." The answer was surprising, but quite logical. If North's partner had hearts, he would have based on an aceless hand, the hand was practically sure to fit the South hand like a glove. The actual North hand was about as bad a fit as he could possibly have. It was quite possible for North to have the queen of diamonds among his values—instead of high, but useless, clubs.

If North had the only missing ace, however, it was quite possible for his hand to be a bad fit for the South hand. The more North had in clubs, the less he would have elsewhere. The play for a grand slam might well be poor, or even impossible, and South would have contented himself with bidding six hearts instead of seven.

CARD SENSE

Q—With neither side vulnerable, the bidding has been:

North East South West
1 Diamond 1 Heart 2 South 2 West
Hearts 8-4, Diamonds 7-3, Clubs 3-6-4-2. What do you do?

A—Pass. If East had passed, you would have found a resonance; but since East had bid, you can pass and thus indicate weakness.

TODAY'S QUESTION

The bidding is the same as in the question just answered. What do you do?

Answer—Tomorrow

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
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Solution of Saturday's puzzle. Across:

1. Waterfall for the fuel car. (7)
2. A lone cowboy. (4)
3. Windmill blade. (4)
4. Don't go. (3)
5. Washing machine the lady run. (7)
6. A kind of tea in water. (7)
7. Lip. (3)
8. Quite unfreezing. (4)
9. Dried meat. (4)
10. A star who ruled. (4)
11. Put up. (3)
12. Unafraid. (5)
13. Usually responsible for the writing on the wall. (4)
14. Well-known measure. (3)
15. Bookish unpopular winner. (4)
16. Usual to give a good one. (4)
17. If good, the memory lingers on. (4)
18. A drinker of ales? (4)
19. Bookish love the 4 when it's this. (4)
20. One of the "uncommon" trees. (4)
21. Contact. (4)

Down:

1. Unafraid. (5)
2. Usually responsible for the writing on the wall. (4)
3. Well-known measure. (3)
4. Bookish unpopular winner. (4)
5. Usual to give a good one. (4)
6. If good, the memory lingers on. (4)
7. A drinker of ales? (4)
8. Bookish love the 4 when it's this. (4)
9. One of the "uncommon" trees. (4)
10. Contact. (4)
11. Put up. (3)
12. Unafraid. (5)
13. Usually responsible for the writing on the wall. (4)
14. Well-known measure. (3)
15. Bookish unpopular winner. (4)
16. Usual to give a good one. (4)
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18. A drinker of ales? (4)
19. Bookish love the 4 when it's this. (4)
20. One of the "uncommon" trees. (4)
21. Contact. (4)

BY THE WAY

by Beachcomber

AS the only foreman cutter in the street who can cut an eye in half with a sponge, and vice versa, I was interested in the repetition, by a lecturer, of the old nonsense: "Nothing is as difficult as it seems if you put your mind to it."

How would he set about uncorking a bottle of wine with a telescope?

Foulmouthe's system

CAPTAIN FOULMOUTH has won a good deal of money on horses lately. Has the Captain a system? That is what racing men are asking. He has. The moment it is reasonably clear that a certain horse is winning a race, he takes a signal to a man with a telescope some miles away. This man reports by shortwave radio to the Captain in a private room of a big public-house. The Captain rushes into the bar and makes his bet. A few minutes later his horse is announced as the winner, and he collects a nice little sum of money. He has always made an arrangement with the barman to ensure that the radio should have broken down on the day of the race, and the Captain is not to be taken in.

UNCURK

A COMMENT by Mr. A. J. Cummings on the rising flood of barbarous abbreviations printed in capital letters prompts me to ask

YOUR BIRTHDAY

By STELLA

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15

BORN today, you have a retentive memory, a love of books and a thirst for information, as well as the ability to impart your knowledge to others. You are one of the born teachers of the world and should be exceptionally happy in this field. You have a quiet but determined personality, and usually get what you want without too much fuss. You love pleasure and cultural entertainment, but recognize that there is a place in life for play—and an equally important place for hard work. You are conscientious and get what needs to be done, done first. Then you take time out for proper rest and relaxation. Since you have the facility for making friends easily, you will

have a large circle of acquaintances. You are not content to read, you like to talk with others and usually select those whose intellectual and cultural tastes are similar to your own. You are fond of travel and will want to visit the far places of the earth during your formative years. Once you have settled down, however, you will devote your interests and energies to your own circle, and not remain long an arm-chair traveller through the medium of travel books. Your marriage should be a happy and productive one.

To find what the stars have in store for tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

BACCHANUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22)—Tensions can mount to rather dangerous proportions today if you let them. Don't! CANTOR (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—Keep your eyes on some worthwhile objective; see that all efforts are bent towards reaching it. AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—May be important for you to give a thought to personal appearance and good grooming. PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—A good day for romance. Plan a pleasant surprise for the one you love the most. ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—Be cautious about giving assistance. Don't be taken in by a "tail tale." TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—The company of an elderly friend or relative can prove a source of considerable pleasure. GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—Relax in the company of a business associate whose interests are similar to your own. CANCER (June 22-July 23)—Calm activities can give stimulating as well as relaxing this evening. LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—If you can curtail labour at home or at the office by installing some time-saving device. VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—Do calm and assured that success is yours and you will find it easier to gain your objective. LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—Seek out the company of a congenial friend. The theatre or movies offer pleasant diversions. SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 23)—Your assistance may be needed right now by an older relative who depends upon you for help.

DUMB BELLS

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE OUR TOBACCO PLANTATION, CIGARETTES?

WEEK-END SOFTBALL

BRAVES SET BACK WARRIORS & PANDAS TOPPLE JAGUARS

By "KEYSTONE"

The vengeful Braves made another purposeful stride forward on the comeback trail, displaying superb ball artistry in every department to snatch a fine 4-2 win from their erstwhile League rivals of the Warriors squad in the Softball League match yesterday.

In the morning Senior "A" game, the Pandas overcame a four-run deficit by unleashing a continuous barrage of base-hits in the sixth to score a rousing 10-7 victory over the Jaguars.

The nightcap game saw the mighty bats of the Saints stroke out a comfortable 11-0 decision over the blue-clad Madcaps.

The sole Senior "B" Division game of the week dumped the unwarlike Warriors "B" deep in the dank, cold cellar when the rough and tough Wildfires mauled losing pitcher Ray Cordaro with 10 safe hits to register a 14-0 winning margin.

Leading the batting parade for the Wildfires were Roberto Viera and pitcher Roberto Silva with two hits in four each, while R. Remedios and shortstop R. Viera equalled this feat for the Warriors.

SPINE-TINGLING

Stealing most of the limelight from the other week-end games, the Jaguars-Pandas tilt turned out to be a spine-tingling slug-fest in which the Jaguars wound up holding the short end of the stick, being outlasted 10-7.

"Protest" Jimmy Herriek led off for the Pandas with a clothes-line drive to left center in the very first inning, went down to second on a wild pitch, and reached scoring position at third when hindsnatcher Red Pereira bobbled a third strike.

Herriek scored in a shower of dirt on another wild pitch to draw first blood for the Pandas. Buckling down to the job in hand, the Jags played tight ball the next three innings to keep the Pandas scoreless while they themselves drew up and overtook the opposition.

Red Pereira lofted a towering fly to centre which garden-man C. M. Tung permitted to bounce out of his mitt, and by the time the ball was relayed back to the infield, Pereira was porched, wheezing and panting, on the scoring perch at third.

Outfielder Lionel Sequeira blundered one to short right, and Red Pereira tugged into the lead. But Sequeira was grazed at second when he attempted to sneak down to the keystone sack on the play. Nelson Souza fell victim to one of Pandas hurler Jackie Wei's rare strike-out moods, going down flailing futilely at the swooshing pitches aimed past him.

ON A RAMPAGE

The aroused Jaguars, having tasted blood, went on a rampage in the third, fourth and fifth innings, scoring six good-looking runs on four solid hits to mark up a seemingly untouchable 7-3 lead.

"Tom Thumb" Tomochy worked Jackie Wei for a base on balls, and Ignar Erikson got a life on an infield miscue. Vic Pedruco then stepped into a fat pitch and sailed it over third base to score the two runners. The Jaguars scored two additional runs on wild heaves and a bunt hit by Frankie Barros in the fourth to further extend their lead.

In the top half of the fifth frame, the Pandas slashed back at their rivals when C.M. Tung bashed out a two-bagger to centre and scored on Jimmy Herriek's tuck-in to rightfield which was mishandled, allowing

Herriek to scamper all the way down to third, "Professor" Herriek denied the rubber after Tung when the rightfielder heaved wild to home plate.

The Jags went further ahead in their half of the fifth when Erikson got on through a fumble at first base and was advanced when Vic Pedruco banged out his second hit of the day. Hett hindsnatcher Red Pereira then stepped up to the dish and showed his boys "how" with a slashing two-run hit. Jackie Wei then rather belatedly bore down hard and retired the following two batters to end the inning.

FANG AND CLAW

The Panda Bearcats ripped into the Jaguars fang and claw in the fateful sixth stanza which veteran Y. S. Liang opened in a big way with a sizzling line drive hit, and stole down to second on the next pitch. Shortstop Wally Ma put Liang into scoring position with a bunt which caught the Jaguar infield on the wrong foot, allowing Ma to scuttle down to second.

"Two-ton Lulu" chapped the pill into the dirt for a routine out at first, but the relay to home missed Y. S. Liang by the proverbial gnat's eye-lash when he slithered full-length across the pay-station in a cloud of dust. Pinch-hitter S.S. Hau went down swinging for the second out, and the Jaguars' supporters heaved a great sigh of relief, little suspecting the chaos which was to follow.

The fireworks started when Raymond Tsao, substituting for Harold Ong, got a life on first when Erikson tossed a bad one to spoil an ordinary infield out. The Pandas, mightily heartened by this unexpected stroke of good fortune, swung at Vic Pedruco's offerings with renewed gusto, hitting safeties in rapid succession, with even weaker-hurler Wally joining in the fun with a stinging grounder through first base. By the time the smoke of battle had cleared, six big runs were marked up on the scoreboard.

COUP DE GRACE

The Pandas chalked up an insurance run in their last time at bat when heavyweight C. Y. Lu lifted a towering fly to centre for a coup de grace home-run. The Bearcats made no mistake in downing the Jaguars in short one-two-three order in the remaining two cantos to carry the day with a great, well-deserved win.

Winning pitcher Jackie Wei enjoyed a fine day on the mound, striking out five and passing three enemy batters, and was touched for only four hits in seven full innings. His losing opponent, Vic Pedruco, issued no walks and disposed of four Pandas through strikeouts, but had his redoubtable speed-ball plashed on eight occasions for solid base-hits.

As predicted, the Braves showed their closest League rivals a thing or two on the diamond, lifting nine Warrior scalps with a 4-2 score.

What promised to be a tight pitchers' duel was completely shattered by a rash of fielding errors breaking all over the Warriors while the die not quite make up for by pulling off two double-plays. The Warriors equalled their rivals with five base-hits, but bungled the ball at the most costly moments to hand the game to the Braves.

The Tribe opened the scoring in the first when Carlos Yvanovich slammed out a liner and brought in one run when former MVP man Junior Remedios celebrated his return to the old hunting grounds with a tearing drive to right. Remedios, however, was nailed squarely at the plate for a scintillating double-killing when he attempted to score after a catch in short centre.

The fighting Warriors retaliated with an evening through a hit by shortstop George Turner, who tolled when Brian Mooney's grounder to short was heaved out of the first baseman's reach.

The Warriors were able to score only one more, when Hank Kilien got on base through a fielder's choice and was chased home by Jimmy Cheng's twisting drive to right field.

LAST DITCH STAND

In their last time at bat, the Warrior-men made a last ditch stand when hindsnatcher Peter Hahn noted a sky-scraping fly which dropped just short of the scoreboard for a rousing double after two away. But he died quietly at the keystone base when pinch-hitter Tito Hyndman floated the ball out to rightfield for the final out of the game.

Both pitchers hurled fine, steady ball in allowing five hits each, with Braves chucker Chapple Remedios outstaying his opponent by issuing nary a walk, while Joey Franco gave out one free base.

Clamping down tight in both inner and outer defence zones at the critical moments and coming through with clutch hits pulled the Tribe through yesterday to put them another notch higher in the current League competition, while the Warriors outfit are now pushed one step down on to an uneasy perch on the third rung.

CHOPPED THEIR WAY

In the tea-time game, Art Ozuelo's mighty Sabina chopped their way to a strenuous 14-0 decision over Buster Holland's Madcaps through sheer hitting power.

The St Joseph's squad ganged up on "Old Imperturbable" Kelly Silva - Netto in the chaotic second inning, banging out three hits which dovetailed with three walks to manufacture six morale-destroying runs. With this commanding lead to full back on, the Saints never looked back, picking up five more runs in the fourth, sixth and last frames to win, going away from the rumpus Cape.

The Madcaps could tally only once each in the third and fifth innings, but staged a spirited uprising during their last turn at bat in a last gasp gesture.

Pete Macrao amazed everyone with a bounding bunt, over third, and was followed by pinch-hitter Graham Crookdake with another hit to the same place. A Barros advanced the two runners with a grounder to third which lanky Benny Omar fumbled to lead the sacks.

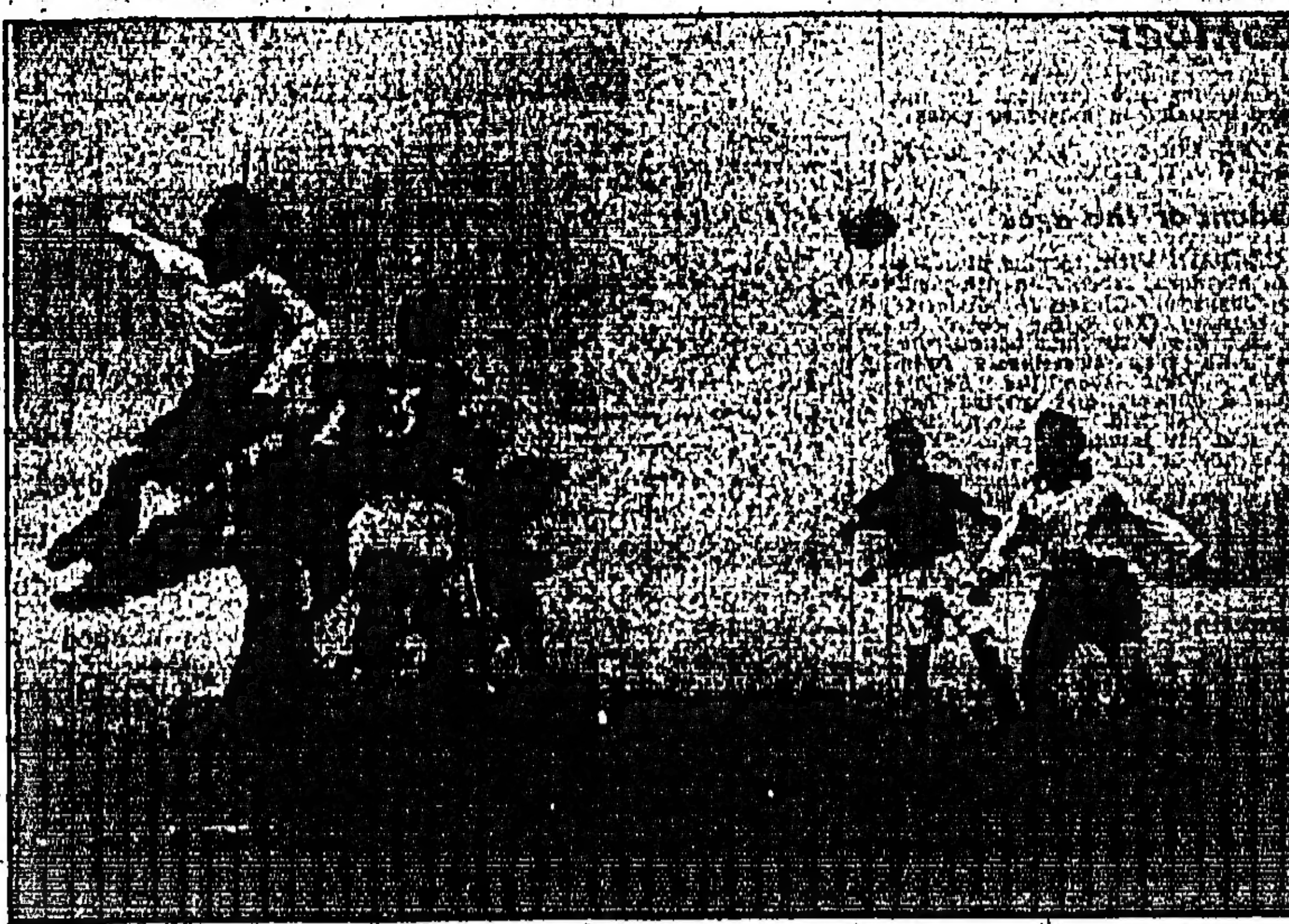
Joey Grace then came through with a clutch single which scored Macrae. Crookdake scampered across the plate when Eric Remedios hit an infield grounder for the second out. Bernard Silva brought in two more runs with a bingle to short centre, but Ed Almeida grounded out to end the rally and leave the final score at 14-0.

Hotcomer Benny Omar led the Saints' attack with a solid three in four effort at bat, including a four-bagger, while team-mate Jindoo Hussain obliged with a booming three-sack hit in the second canto which scored one. The Caps found their batting eye a mile too late, miking down with two chary hits off the easy offerings of Sherry Bucks till the last frame when they finally managed to get their sights adjusted.

THE SCORES

Junior Division: Blackhaws 15, Chinese Athletics 6.
Ladies Division: Foot 23, Chinese Athletics 9; South China 4, Squaws 10; Pandas 7, Wahoes 17.
Senior "B" Division: Warriors 0, Wildfires 14.
Senior "A" Division: Jaguars 7, Pandas 10; Braves 4, Warriors 2; Madcaps 0, St. Joseph's 11.

WALTHAMSTOW AVENUE v WATFORD



C. Thompson, the Watford centre-forward, jumps the highest and heads the ball towards the Avenue goal in the FA Challenge Cup second round match at Green Pond Road, Walthamstow.

Bookmakers Nominate Halloween Favourite For Grand National

London, Dec. 14. Although the entries are not due until January, the first list of prices for the world's greatest steeplechase, the Grand National, to be run next March, have been issued by leading bookmakers here.

Rather surprisingly, they have not installed this year's impressive winner, Teal, as favourite. They have nominated the Contessa di Santa Ella's eight-year-old gelding, Halloween, at the head of the quotations at 12 to 1.

Teal and Miss Dorothy Pagot's Cheltenham Gold Cup winner, Mont Tremblant, are paired next at 16 to 1. Four horses, Cardinal Error, Royal Oak, Stormhead and Wenceslaus, are grouped at 20 to 1.

Halloween, a former hunter, now trained at Upham in Hampshire by Walter Wightman, has won his two races this jumping term in facile fashion.

Last month he triumphed in a three mile chase at Kempton Park, named after the famous Irish chaser of recent years, Cottage Rake.

Prior to that, Halloween claimed a top class field of 15 in the Grand Sefton Trial Chase at Hurst Park. Halloween, who won numerous hunter races

scored twice in successive years, the last to do so being Reynoldstown in 1935 and 1936.

The French-bred six-year-old Mont Tremblant made a meteoric rise in steeplechasing ranks last year. Up to two months before his Cheltenham Gold Cup triumph, he was still running in novice races, but many shrewd judges marked him down as a probable Grand National winner of the future after his storming victory in the big Cheltenham event.

That he is still in good heart was shown by his winning debut of this season at Sandown Park, the London track, this week.

He blundered at the last fence when looking at the winner of the Molyneux Chase at Liverpool, and his jockey lost the reins two fences out in the valuable Emblem Chase at Manchester.

Stormhead, conceding nine pounds, beat him at Manchester to score his second win in two races. This Irish-bred eight-year-old has shown great improvement this season and jumped like a stag at Manchester.

He looks the type to do well at Aintree.

Royal Oak, a promising newcomer to chasing, has won both his races this season.

Wenceslaus, a comparative novice, won his only race so far this season in fine style. He is only six years old and may prove a better Grand National prospect in a couple of years' time, when he has had more experience.

At this early stage, bookmakers are unlikely to transact much business as the odds offered can hardly be described as "attractive."—Reuter.

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Shodan Scores Century In His First Test

Calcutta, Dec. 14.

Deepak Shodan, 24-year-old university student from Ahmedabad, today joined the select band of cricketers who scored a century in their first Test when he made 110 for India against Pakistan here today.

His feat helped India into a commanding position in the fifth and final Test for at the close Pakistan, with nine second innings wickets standing, were still 102 runs behind India's first innings total of 397.

Pakistan, who had made 257 in their first innings, were 38 for one in the second innings at the close.

The only other cricketer to have scored a century in his first Test for India was Lala Amarnath, skipper of today's team. He accomplished the feat against Douglas Jardine's 1933-1934 England team in Bombay. Three other Indians scored a century on their first Test appearance, but all for England. They were: Ranjitsinhji, his nephew Dulipsinhji and the Nawab of Pataudi.

Hussain got a lift from it occasionally. He bowled consistently well, mixing a bumper or two with his swingers. Fazal also kept a good length and bowled almost throughout the Indian innings today.

The best ball of the day, however, was the one with which Ramchand claimed little Hanif Mohammed's wicket. The ball came in late and low to hit the stumps.—Reuter.

WITHOUT BLEMISH

Shodan's innings was without blemish except for a risky shot which rose awkwardly over the slips when he was 40.

Pandkar also played a valuable innings, scoring 57 runs, and with Shodan he made the seventh wicket worth 80 runs. The wicket today was still full of turn, though there were a few spots on it and Mahmood

SCORPIONS WELL PLACED

Scorpions, who beat Craighower by 42 runs at Chater Road on Saturday, are very well placed in the struggle for the First Division Championship of the Cricket League.

They are now two points behind the Optimists with two matches in hand.

The Optimists lost two valuable points when they tied with the Army at Sookunpo.

Kowloon Cricket Club dropped out of the race in losing to Recrio by four wickets at King's Park on Saturday and then drawing with Craighower the following day.

Scores in the latter match were:

Craighower
G. A. Souza, not out 89
K. Y. Tam, c Lawrence b R. E. Lee 6
M. Singh, st. Lericou b R. E. Lee 2

P. Ragi, c Zimmern b A. T. Lee 35
H. Madan, c Taylor b Dodge 11
W. H. Colledge, st. Lericou b A. T. Lee 21
D. Bottomley, c Dodge b Zimmern 1

D. Readman, b Muldoon 12
G. Hong Choy, not out 9
Extras 7

Total (for 7 wickets declared) 194

Bowling
F. R. Zimmern 12 2 48 1
R. E. Lee 7 40 3
Muldoon 11 2 36 1
A. T. Lee 7 40 2
Taylor 3 9 9
Dodge 2 14 1

KCC
P. V. Dodge, C. Readman b Hong Choy 31
A. T. Lee, c Singh b Ragi 20
G. B. Taylor, b Bottomley 0
J. Lericou, lbw, b Bottomley 0
J. Muldoon, not out 37
N. Hart-Baker, c Readman b Bottomley 12
F. E. Lawrence, c Singh b Ragi 10
R. E. Zimmern, b Ragi 9
L. Quincey, not out 7
Extras 3

Total (for 5 wks) 129

Bowling
Bottomley 13 3 47 3
Ragi 7 1 32 3
Hong Choy 7 42 1
Chetwynd 1 1 1

HOW THEY STAND
First Division
Optimists P W D T L Pts
Scorpions 9 7 1 0 1 29
KCC 10 5 4 0 1 24
RAF 11 5 4 0 2 24
Army 10 4 1 1 4 20
CCC 9 3 3 0 3 15
Recrio 5 3 0 0 2 12
HKU 10 1 0 1 8 6
Navy 10 0 8 1 6 6
IRC 9 2 0 0 6 4

Second Division
RAF P W D T L Pts
Recrio 9 2 1 0 6 33
Duckworth 10 1 0 0 9 22
IRC 10 0 0 0 4 24
KCC 10 0 0 0 4 24
Army 8 4 2 0 2 18
Police 8 4 1 0 3 17
Navy 9 2 0 0 0 12
KGVS 8 2 2 0 4 10
HKU 9 2 2 0 5 10
DSS 9 2 1 0 6 10
Recrio 7 1 0 0 6 4

Hesketh Wins Belgian Race

Louvain, Belgium, Dec. 14. Walter Hesketh of Britain won the international cross country race at Weopler near here today in effortless style.

Covering the four miles and 1,500 yards in 25 minutes and two seconds in heavy going, he was never seriously challenged and had 19 seconds to spare over the second man home, the Belgian De Duytsche.—Reuter.

THE GAMBOLS



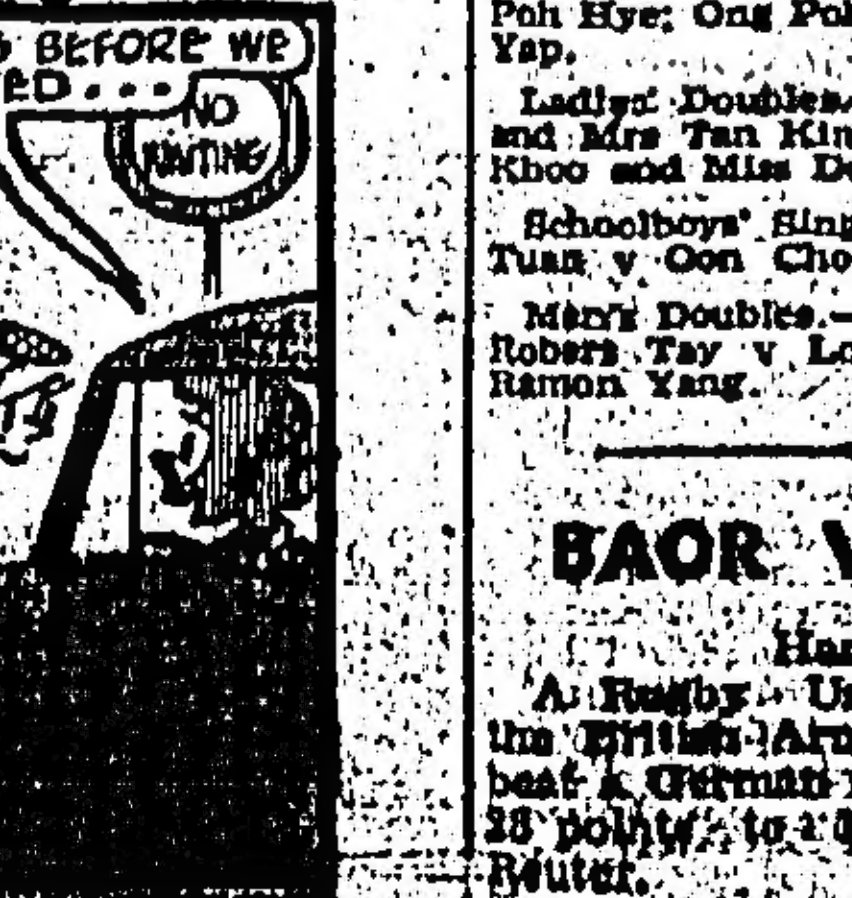
YOU CAN'T PARK HERE



BUT I'M NOT PARKING—I'VE STOPPED TO SPEAK TO THIS LADY



AS I WAS SAYING BEFORE WE WERE INTERRUPTED



BAOR VICTORY

Hanover, Dec. 14. A. Raggio, Union team from the British Army, of the Rhine beat a German national team by 25 points, to set back today's match.



SOCCER ON THE INSIDE

(Contributed by Desmond Hackett, Robert Findlay and Henry Rose. Edited by Marshall Fallows)

Bolton and England centre-forward Nat Lofthouse has been playing for some months with a broken bone in his right hand.

But treatment is being deferred until the summer on the advice of a specialist.

Lofthouse will probably go into a nursing home in June to have the bone righted.

He first felt the pain last March during England's game in Belfast, but paid little attention to it.

Curious feature is that his season's representative matches have been broken down. "I still hope to sign him," says McMillan.

And now Jack Lee, the international forward who faded out of soccer with a serious knee injury, is back in the reserve side and making a strong challenge for his old place with the seniors.

One of those who think Third Division clubs have too many matches in Football League Secretary Mr. Fred Howarth.

His remedy: Reduce the number of clubs; reconstruct the two divisions on a national basis.

Derby County chief Stuart McMillan has found the first-

Harry Whittle Faces An Year Of Work And Play At Cambridge

By BRUCE HARRIS

Patriarchal Harry Whittle, captain of our Olympic team, has come to Cambridge at the serene and yellow age of 30 as a first-class reinforcement for university athletics.

He showed it in the part he played in the university relays.

Next March—"if I am chosen"—he will be hurdling and jumping for Cambridge in the inter-university sports at White City—the oldest man, conspicuously, on his side.

"I have a year of work and play here at Cambridge," Whittle, a tall, sandy-haired, spectacled, unmarried Northerner, told me, "and don't I enjoy the change after my years in industry?"

"Only trouble is that there aren't enough hours in the day. Lectures morning and evening, training in the afternoon, even an idle or dull moment. Do I find university discipline irksome? Not at all, although, to be sure, I have been allowed what is called MA status."

Whittle, a civil and mechanical engineer who graduated at Manchester and was a captain in the REME in Italy during the war, has been sent to Cambridge on a post-graduate course by Imperial Chemical Industries.

In the engineering lab. he is studying the very latest about building construction; on the running track he regularly "does an afternoon's work after this pattern:

Three 220 yards sprints. A quarter-hour of low hurdling. Five or six short-burst sprints.

Some suppling exercises. "It isn't easy," he commented, "to train for running in an English winter. A South African here once said that if you ran too fast in this country your arms would drop off!"

It was as our champion 440-yard hurdler that Whittle went to Helsinki, finishing fifth in his event. But he was British Long-Jump Champion in 1947 and 1949.

SPRINT CYCLING RECORD SET

Zurich, Dec. 14. Oscar Plattner, Swiss holder of the world professional sprint cycling title, best of the world track record for one kilometre from a flying start here today. He clocked one minute and 3.2 seconds as compared with the previous best time of one minute and 4.8 seconds by Kneers of Belgium in 1934.—Reuter.

"LITTLE MO" HEADS THE RANKINGS

New York, Dec. 14.

For the second successive year, teen-aged Maureen Connolly of San Diego, California, was today awarded top ranking among women tennis players.

And for the first time, a negro player has achieved ranking in the first ten—Althea Gibson of New York was ranked ninth.

"Little Mo" Connolly won every tournament she entered in 1952, including the United States National Championship and Wimbledon. She led the American women's team to victory over Britain in the Wightman Cup match.

Doris Hart of Coral Gables, Florida, ranked second and Shirley Fry, Akron, Ohio, third.

The rankings are the recommendation of the United States Lawn Tennis Association Ranking Committee, which will be approved by the USLTA annual meeting on January 17, but there is little likelihood of a change.

Louise Brough, of Beverly Hills, California, came fourth from a year of inactivity, due to tennis elbow, to take fourth place.

Mrs. Nancy Chaffee Kliner, of Palm Springs, California, was fifth.—Associated Press.

with promotion and relegation operating.

Epsom - (Corinthian League) centre-forward Bill Goddard did not score in his last match. Now that's news. Why? Because Goddard had hit five consecutive hat-tricks (making seven for the season) in his previous games.

Can any other player in top-class amateur or professional soccer claim such a record? Goddard (goal tally for the season 32) tops the six-foot mark and weighs more than 13 stone.

Hull City centre-half Neil Franklin, out of the game since he injured a knee in a charity fixture in September, resumed training last week—and has broken down again. Another operation may be necessary.

"I'll be back in time for the Cup ties," says Newcastle International leader Jackie Milburn, the man with the lightning turn.

Milburn, almost match-fit after a long lay-off through injury, learned that rapid switch-round trick by practising with a tennis ball during the lunch break on a patch of ground near the pit where he worked.

His speed? That's a legacy of his cinder-track days when he earned the nickname of the "Ashington hare."

Bustling Trevor Ford, Sunderland's Welsh international leader, is chasing a record. No Welshman has ever headed the First Division goal-scoring. Ford (14) is second at the moment, one behind Roy Swinbourne (Wolves).

Here's a poser. Which player has earned most money this season watching football? The answer is Joe Kennedy, West Bromwich centre-half.

He was England reserve in attendance at the matches against Ireland, Wales, and Belgium, and also for a Football League affair. Reserve get the same fee (£30) as those who play.

"Money for nothing," says Kennedy—but he would rather be on the field than over the touchline.

Trust the boys from the frozen North to think up something new in soccer fashions. . . . the Dumbarton goalkeeper wore track-suit trousers stuffed with straw; those dour chaps of Airdrie played in gloves.

Welsh-born London referee John Meade, MBE, (Military Division); returns home—unscathed—next month after three years' whistling in the Argentine.

Meade admits to some narrow escapes, but has not experienced the hose-pipe, tear-bomb, etc., unpleasanties which some of his English colleagues have had to face.

Stan Cullis, Wolves' manager, is not the only one to cast a longing eye on Jimmy Adamson, the Burnley right half.

Sheffield Wednesday went further and asked what were the chances of talking transfer business. They got a brusque "None."

Latest craze at the Baseball Ground, Derby, is badminton. As soon as they finish training, most of the Derby County youngsters race to the gym to play their "challenge matches."

It's all part of the keep-fit campaign.—(London Express Service)

Home Soccer Review WOLVES' DRAMATIC WIN OVER WEDNESDAY

London, Dec. 13.

Wolverhampton Wanderers, leaders of Division I, scored a dramatic victory three minutes before the end of their game against Sheffield Wednesday, and this was only one incident in a day full of excitement and shocks in the English football leagues.

Sunderland, West Bromwich Albion and Blackpool, second, third and fourth in the First Division table, all lost, while Manchester City and Stoke City, the bottom teams, each scored four times in good wins.

Feeling in the clash between Norwich City and Northampton Town, second and third, respectively, in the Southern section of the Third Division, reached fever pitch and referee Mr. F. Martin ordered two players off the field. Johnny Gavin, the Norwich and Eire international outside-right, received marching orders 20 minutes from the end, and 12 minutes later, Tommy McIlain, the Northampton left-half, followed him to the dressing room. Northampton won the game by the odd goal of three, so depriving Norwich of their undefeated home record and also of second place in the table.

On a day when snow in the north and bad light in other parts of the country made the defenders' task anything but easy, the large number of 101 goals was scored.

Shrewsbury and Coventry shared top honours with seven each, and West Ham, Leeds, Leicester, Everton and Notts County scored five apiece.

The best individual performance came from Ken McPherson, Notts County's 24-year-old reserve centre-forward, making only his second Football League appearance this season. He scored four times, showing splendid opportunities and deadly shooting.

Main credit in Division I must be divided between Cardiff City and Stoke City. Cardiff hold the worst home record of any League One side, but they gave 48,000 supporters full value for their money today. No doubt, many of the crowd came to see their national leader, Trevor Ford of Sunderland, but it was the Cardiff attack which shone.

They scored four times to one goal by Stoke. Stoke City, Wolves' nearest rivals, prevented Blackpool from giving any answer. Stoke fully deserved this convincing success. A remodelled attack gave Stoke the most dangerous appearance this season.

Another team to score four times in the bottom of the table, Manchester City. Wolverhampton's win by three goals to two was just about justified, for their play on a frosty pitch was of a quality never quite matched by Sheffield Wednesday. But they had a fright. Wednesday changed ends 2-1 up, and Roy Swinbourne's deciding goal did not come until three minutes from the final whistle.

UNDERSHIELD WIN Main interest in the Second Division centred on the grounds of Plymouth Argyle and Rotherham United. At Home Park, Plymouth Argyle entertained Huddersfield Town, who are second in the table, and a crowd of 33,000—the highest this season—hoped that their favourites would maintain their winning run at home. Huddersfield, however, possessed an attack too

good for the Plymouth defence and their victory by two clear goals was in no way flattering.

Victory by Sheffield United, the Second Division leaders, at Rotherham was by the same margin, but not so convincing in actual fact. During the first-half the home team looked equally dangerous but lacked finishing power. A capacity crowd of 25,000 were entertained by a display of thrilling if not academic football.

Bristol Rovers, undefeated in their last 17 matches, continued their winning way with a 2-0 victory over Crystal Palace, and with Norwich losing, they increased their advantage at the top of Division II (South) to five points.

Leaders of the Northern Section, Grimsby Town, were held by Port Vale, and Oldham winning against Bradford City took the opportunity of making up some of their heavy losses.

GRIMSBY FORTUNATE Grimsby, indeed, were fortunate to take a point. They were a goal behind until three minutes from the end when McMillan scored the equaliser.

Apart from McPherson four players recorded hat-tricks. Brown and Dorman each found the net three times in Coventry's 7-2 success, and Rowley, who took his total for the season to 22, and Potts did likewise for Leicester and Everton respectively.

Coventry have now scored 20 goals in the last five games, all of which have been won. Conversely their opponents today, Torquay, have not gained victory since Oct. 11. They made nine changes, three positional, in an effort to find a successful combination but without avail.

John Charles, Leeds converted centre-forward, was again on the mark. He got two in the 5-2 defeat of Swansea Town, and since being brought from centre-half to lead the attack on Oct. 18 has scored 13 times in eight matches.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE Two of the best Scottish wingers, Jimmy Walker of Partick Thistle and Bobby Collins of Celtic, took the honours in today's Scottish League programme.

Undoubtedly, Walker's was the best performance for he scored four goals in his team's 5-4 victory over Hibernian, the League champions.

Collins helped in the scoring of four of Celtic's goals against Dundee although he did not net himself. This was his first senior game of the season for he had been out of the side with a broken arm sustained during a close season tour.

United's long run of successes ended against Dundee, and Stenhousemuir defeated the other promotion aspirants, Hamilton Academical's.

Four goals were scored in the drawn Ayr—Kilmarnock game—all from the penalty spot.—Reuter.

LEAGUE STANDINGS London, Dec. 14. Football league standings after yesterday's matches were:

Division I

Wolves 21 11 2 8 47 33 24

Sunderland 20 11 2 7 40 33 23

West Brom 20 10 3 7 38 33 23

Blackpool 20 10 3 7 38 33 23

Sheff Wed 20 10 3 7 38 33 23

Sheff Utd 20 10 3 7 38 33 23

Leeds 20 10 3 7 38 33 23

Leicester 20 10 3 7 38 33 23

Everton 20 10 3 7 38 33 23

Cardiff 20 10 3 7 38 33 23

Stoke 20 10 3 7 38 33 23

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BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS TO		
"PAKHOT"	Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka & Kobe	10 a.m. 17th Dec.
"FOYANG"	Singapore, Penang & Belawan	5 p.m. 17th Dec.
"HUPEH"	Tientsin, Nagoya, Osaka & Kobe	10 a.m. 18th Dec.
"FENGHONG"	Nagoya, Yokohama, Niigata, Keelung	5 p.m. 18th Dec.
"SHENGKING"	Keelung, Shanghai	3 p.m. 20th Dec.
"YUNNAN"	Singapore, Penang & Belawan	10 a.m. 22nd Dec.
"ANKING"	Djarkarta, Semarang, Sourabaya & Mearns	Noon 24th Dec.
"FUKIEN"	Keelung, Shanghai	Noon 24th Dec.
"SZECHUEN"	Keelung, Shanghai	3 p.m. 24th Dec.
"SHENGKING"	Keelung, Shanghai	10 a.m. 26th Dec.
"YUNNAN"	Tientsin	10 a.m. 28th Dec.

ARRIVALS FROM

"HUPEH"	Tientsin	15th Dec.
"PAKHOT"	Bangkok	6 p.m. 15th Dec.
"FOYANG"	Singapore	16th Dec.
"SHENGKING"	Keelung	7 a.m. 18th Dec.
"FENGHONG"	Indonesian & Bilitan	8 a.m. 18th Dec.
"YUNNAN"	Shanghai	19th Dec.
"ANKING"	Kobe	20th Dec.
"FUKIEN"	Kobe	23/24th Dec.
"SZECHUEN"	Kobe	24th Dec.

A.O. LINE LTD./C.N. CO., LTD., JOINT SERVICE

SAILINGS TO		
"TAIPEI"	Sydney & Melbourne	28th Dec.
"CHANGTE"	Kobe & Yokohama	31st Dec.
"TAIYUAN"	Japan	2nd Jan.

ARRIVALS FROM

"TAIPEI"	Kobe	26th Dec.
"CHANGTE"	Australia & Manila	28th Dec.
"TAIYUAN"	Australia & Manila	29th Dec.

BLUE FUNNEL LINE

Scheduled Sailings to Europe via Aden & Port Said.		
"ANCHISE"	Liverpool & Glasgow	In Port Buoy A-6 Sails Noon 15th Dec.
"CLYTONEUS"	Liverpool, Dublin & Avonmouth	25th Dec.
"ASTANAX"	Genua, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg	26th Dec.
"PERSEUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool, & Glasgow	8th Jan.
"AENEAS"	Liverpool & Glasgow	12th Jan.
"AGAPENOR"	London, Rotterdam & Hamburg	24th Jan.

Scheduled Sailings from Europe

Sails		
Liverpool		
G. "PERSEUS"	Sailed	18th Dec.
S. "AENEAS"	do	20th Dec.
G. "ASCANIUS"	do	31st Dec.
S. "AGAPENOR"	do	10th Jan. 1953
G. "PYRRIUS"	do	17th Jan. 1953
S. "CALCHAS"	18th Dec.	23rd Jan. 1953
G. "AUTOMEDON"	25th Dec.	30th Jan. 1953
S. "ATREUS"	5th Jan.	6th Feb. 1953

G. Loading Glasgow, before Liverpool.
S. Loading Swanes, before Liverpool.
Carriers' option to proceed via other ports to load & discharge cargo.

DE LA RAMA LINES

ARRIVING FROM U.S. ATLANTIC & PACIFIC COAST PORTS.

"MENESTHEUS"	19th Dec.
"DONA NATI"	30th Dec.
SAILING FOR KINGSTON, NEW YORK, via SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES & CRISTOBAL	
"BATAAN"	20th Dec.
"MENESTHEUS"	20th Jan.

Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd.

Route	Departs Hongkong	Arrives H.K. (on return)
HK/Hankow/Singapore (DC-4)	7.30 a.m. Mon. Thurs. 6.45 a.m. Tues. Fri. (Connect at Bangkok with U.S.A. to Hongkong)	
HK/Hanoi (DC-3)	6.45 a.m. Tues. 4.45 p.m. Tues.	
HK/Hai Phong (DC-3)	6.45 a.m. Thurs. 4.15 p.m. Thurs.	
HK/Saigon/Singapore (DC-4)	6.45 a.m. Wed. 4.45 p.m. Wed. Sat.	
HK/Manila/B.N. Borneo (DC-3)	7.15 a.m. Tues. Fri. 4.45 p.m. Wed. Sat.	

All the above subject to Alteration without notice.
For passage and Freight Particulars please apply to

CONNAUGHT RD. C Tel: 30331/8
BRANCH OFFICE: 50 Connaught Rd. West: 25875, 32144, 24878

BEN LINE

ARRIVALS

FROM		
JAPAN		
"BENVORLICH"	Japan	In Port
"BENRECH"	U.K.	16th Dec.
"BENRINNES"	U.K. via Singapore	on or abt. 24th Dec.
"KING MALCOLM"	U.K. via Singapore	30th Dec.
"BENVENUE"	Japan	5th Jan.
"BENALBANACH"	U.K.	6th Jan.
"BENATTOW"	U.K. via Singapore	17th Jan.
"BENRECH"	Japan	10th Jan.

SAILINGS

Loading on or abt.		
"BENVORLICH"	Direct to Singapore, thence Liverpool, Glasgow, Rotterdam and Hamburg.	Buoy A4.
"BENRECH"	Kobe, Yokohama, and Osaka.	18th Dec.
"BENRINNES"	Havre, London, Rotterdam & Antwerp.	28th Dec.
"BENVENUE"	Direct to Singapore, thence Liverpool, Antwerp, Rotterdam and Hamburg.	6th Jan.
"BENALBANACH"	Avonmouth, Liverpool, Glasgow, and Antwerp.	10th Jan.
"BENATTOW"	Direct to Singapore, thence Genoa, London, Hamburg and Hull.	20th Jan.
"BENRECH"	Kobe, Yokohama, and Osaka.	21st Jan.

W. R. LOXLEY & CO., (CHINA) LTD.

Yokohama. Agents. Telephone: 34100.

CHINA MAIL

10 WINDHAM STREET

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NOTICE

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

As of 15th December 1952, the offices of the Consulate General of Panama will move to:

Room 702, Bank of East Asia Building.

The telephone number 24082 remains unchanged.

MARIO E. GUILLEN, Consul General.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

CONSIGNEES PER AUSTRALIA WEST PACIFIC LINE

are hereby notified that their cargo is being discharged at the Godown & Godown Co's godown where it will be at consignees risk and subject to the Wharf's terms and condition of storage, and where delivery may be obtained.

Damaged packages are to be left in the godown for examination by Consignees and the Wharf's surveyors, Messrs. Carmichael & Clarke at 10 a.m. on the 15th December, 1952.

To comply with the General Bonded Warehouse Regulations, consignees must have a Revenue Officer in attendance when damaged dutiable goods are examined.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the steamer's godown, and all goods remaining undischarged after the 15th December, 1952, will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the Under-Signed or before the 23rd December, 1952, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

DODWELL & CO., LTD., Agents.

Hongkong, 11th December, 1952.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. A. HEERING

P.P.C. R.O.A.C. 12/12/52

TUITION GIVEN

BALLROOM DANCING: "Tap Dancing", Latin-American dances, new advanced variations start immediately, prepare for Christmas! Tony Wong, 61, Wanching Road.

MUSICAL

MAYFAIR Music Company, are pleased to announce opening sale of everything musical for the music lover, gramophone records, brass, woodwind, stringed instruments and accessories, classical and popular music publications, inspection cordially invited, 131, Queen's Road, Central, 1st floor, (near Golden City Restaurant).

To ADVERTISERS

SUNDAY POST-HERALD Space for commercial advertising should be booked not later than noon on Wednesdays.

For the SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST and the CHINA MAIL, 48 hours before date of publication.

Special Announcements and Classified Advertisements as usual.

RUSSIAN PLANE OUTPUT NOW 22,000 A YEAR

London, Dec. 14. The 1952-53 edition of Jane's All the World's Aircraft contains details of Russian aircraft production and of new types. The Russian Ministry of Aircraft Production is stated to supervise approximately 360 factories, of which 85 are producing airframes and about 30 are building aero-engines.

Many of these factories were originally in the west, where labour and transport were readily available, but part of the strategic distribution of Russia's industries has depended on the development of the vast natural resources of the inner regions, and in recent years the expansion of the aircraft industry has taken place mainly in central Russia and in the east. During 1951 the Soviet aircraft industry is reported to have produced 22,000 aircraft, half of them fighters, and 63,000 aero-engines.

Production of the MIG 15 alone is estimated at 450 a month. It is stated that the general opinion of American pilots who have fought the MIG 15 is that it is superior to the F 86E Sabre, but the latter has an advantage below this height. It has been observed that some examples of the MIG 15 maintain superiority down to about 20,000ft, which may indicate that at least two types, with different engines, exist.

The United States pilots have been able to maintain superiority principally by their better training, greater aggressiveness, superior gun-sights, and the use of the G-suit (special clothing for high-speed, high-altitude flying).

Apart from the almost certain existence of progressive developments of the standard day fighter, it is known that a night or all-weather fighter version, with radome (radar housing) above the nose air inlet, exists.

Among a number of recent Russian aircraft mentioned is an adaptation of the TU4 bomber provided with a girder-like structure on the leading edge of each wing, on to which a MIG 15 can hook itself after take-off.

The fighter can disengage in the air if necessary. The object of this combination is to conserve jet fuel by holding the fighter at sufficient altitude to engage enemy aircraft without having to waste time in climbing.

It is stated that since the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, the United States aircraft industry has delivered more than 10,000 aircraft to the forces, and by the end of this year the rate of production was estimated to be almost 900 a month.

JAPAN THANKS ARGENTINA

ROYAL INTEROCEAN LINES

SAILINGS	To
"TITALENGKA" Dec. 18	Manila, Japan, Singapore, Djakarta, Surabaya & Macassar
"TILUWAI" Dec. 18	Japan
"RUYE" Dec. 22	Japan
"TJIMBENTENG" Dec. 22	Japan
"TJAWANGI" Dec. 22	Japan
"TJIBODAS" Jan. 7	Singapore, Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"RUYE" Jan. 8	Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"VAN HOUTST" Jan. 10	Manila, Singapore, E. & S. Africa
"TASMAN" Jan. 10	Singapore, Penang & Delawan Dell
"TILUWAI" Jan. 10	Singapore, Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"TJIPONDOK" Jan. 23	Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"TJIBANTJET" Jan. 26	Japan
"TJAWANGI" Feb. 2	Japan
"TASMAN" Feb. 4	Japan
"TJIBANTJET" Feb. 5	Singapore, Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"TJIBANTJET" Feb. 5	Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"TJIBANTJET" Feb. 10	Singapore, Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"TJIBANTJET" Feb. 18	Manila, Singapore, E. & S. Africa
"TJIBANTJET" Feb. 23	Singapore, Penang & Delawan Dell
"TASMAN" Feb. 25	Singapore, Djakarta, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar
"TJIBANTJET" Mar. 2	Japan
"TJIBANTJET" Mar. 4	Japan
"TJIBANTJET" Mar. 9	Japan
"TJIBANTJET" Mar. 10	Japan
"TJIBANTJET" Mar. 16	Japan

ARRIVALS

From	From
"TILUWAI" In Port	Nassau, Surabala, Semarang, Djakarta & Singapore
"TITALENGKA" In Port	S. America, S. Africa, Mauritius & Singapore
"TJIMBENTENG" Dec. 23	S. Africa, Mauritius, Djakarta & Singapore
"DOISBEVAIN" Dec. 24	S. America, S. Africa, Mauritius, Singapore & Manila

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CHINESE AGENTS: 82 CONNAUGHT RD. C. TELS. 31190, 25133.

EVERETT LINES

EVERETT ORIENT LINE
Fast regular freight—refrigerator—passenger service to Korea, Japan, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Rangoon, Calcutta and Chittagong.

"REBEVERETT"

In Port	Loading	for	for
Sails	Dec. 15	for Singapore, Penang, Rangoon & Calcutta.	

"LENEVERETT"

Arrives	Dec. 17	from Singapore.
Sails	Dec. 18	Kobe, Hirohata, Yawata, Osaka & Kobe.

(Accepting cargo for transshipment Kobe/Fusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

EVERETT STAR LINE

Fast regular freight—refrigerator—passenger service to Korea, Japan, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi and Persian Gulf Ports.

M. S. "THAI"

Arrives	Dec. 20	from Japan.
Sails	Dec. 21	for Singapore, Port Swettenham, Madras, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Kharram-shahr, Basrah & Bahrain.

M. S. "STAR BETELGEUSE"

Sails	Dec. 30	from Singapore.
Arrives	Dec. 29	for Kobe & Yokohama

(Accepting cargo for transshipment Kobe/Fusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

EVERETT STEAMSHIP CORPORATION S/A
Queen's Building, Telephone 31206.
Chinese Department: Telephone 28293.

Jap Firms To Extend Ship Run

Tokyo, Dec. 14. Two Japanese shipping firms have decided to extend their run to Bahrain despite their recent exclusion from the Japan-Pakistan Full Freight Conference, according to the Kyodo News Service.

The Kokusai Shipping Line and the Shin Nihon Marine Company were members of the Japan-India-Pakistan Freight Conference which recently was reformed into the new conference.

The two organizations plan to place ships on this route from next January with the Kokusai making two sailings a month and the Shin Nihon once monthly.

The two lines plan to reduce freight rates by 10 to 15 per cent on the route in order to counter the freight conference's 10 per cent reduction.

The Kokusai Shipping Line is a company jointly formed by the line's shipping, Mitsubishi Shipping, Nippon Yusen Kaisha and Toyo Navigation Company—France Press.

IMPORT LICENCES EXTENDED

Colombo, Dec. 14. General import licences on Japan and Germany issued to Ceylonese registered importers have been extended by the Controller of Imports up to the end of March next year.

These licences were originally valid only to the end of the current year. Importers, however, cannot import items such as spirits and liquor, cotton piecegoods and woollen manufactures, silks and linen manufactures and motor-cars or other motor vehicles from Germany on these general import licences.

Individual import licences have to be obtained by importers if they wish to import for any of these items, which number over 30. This restriction does not apply to these goods if they originate from Japan.

In the case of Germany, restrictions have been imposed as it comes within the scope of the European Payments Union with which Ceylon and other countries of the Sterling Area have been showing an unfavourable balance of trade.—United Press.

Japan's Trade With P.I.

Manila, Dec. 14. Possibility of increased trade between Japan and the Philippines may be discussed at the forthcoming meeting here between Foreign Secretary Joaquin Elizalde and a high-ranking member of the Japanese Foreign Office.

Trade between the two countries since the war has been carried on under a barter agreement concluded with SCAP during the occupation. There has been a move here to negotiate a new treaty on a bilateral basis to include a greater exchange of goods and use of foreign exchange for payment.

The Philippines so far has enjoyed a favourable balance in trade with Japan.—Associated Press.

Private Companies' Hardships

London, Dec. 14. Five steps to relieve hardships suffered by the small private company are recommended in a report issued by the Institute of Directors. The report, which has been prepared by a committee under the chairmanship of the Right Hon. William Macbaine, has been the basis of the institute's representations to the Royal Commission on Taxation of Profits and Income and to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The report recommends—

(1) That direct taxation on private companies should be on a scale related to the amount of profits rising from 50 per cent on profits of £12,000 to the full scale where the profits are £25,000 or more;

(2) That the limit of deductible remuneration in respect of directors of director-controlled companies, subject to limitation, should be raised to £10,000 or 25 per cent of the profits with a limit of £5,000 in the case of any one director; the salaries of part-time executive directors to be included in the limit;

(3) That subject to satisfactory safeguards the basis of valuation of the shares of the deceased director shareholder should not exceed the normal Stock Exchange valuation and that there should be the right of appeal to a tribunal;

(4) That the arbitrary limit of five years in the case of gifts of shares should be subject to graduation; and

(5) That all executive directors of private limited companies whether full-time or part-time should be allowed to participate for taxation purposes in pension schemes arranged by their companies.

A DISASTER

The report expresses the view that "the disappearance of the private limited company would be a disaster of the first magnitude."

Unless, says the report, legislation which handicaps private companies is not amended, the development of such companies will be frustrated and "the contribution they make to the national economy will be seriously prejudiced."

The effect of the distributed profits-tax and the methods of Estate Duty valuation are described as the "two major factors menacing the continuity of director-controlled private limited companies." Together they make the building up of financial resources to provide for Estate Duty "a virtual impossibility."

"In these circumstances, the reward for taking risks is highly questionable."

The limit set on the amounts which private companies may deduct as directors' salaries is described as "particularly harsh." It is suggested, would company salaries very considerably in excess of the present chargeable total.

ESTATE DUTY

Because of the effect of Estate Duty, directors are occupied far too much with the problems of the report states. In many cases they have now been led to regard an increase in their business profits with considerable alarm. "As these men grow older, and as their businesses increase in prosperity, as they may reasonably hope, their case becomes worse so long as present rates and methods of valuation for Estate Duty remain as they are at present. The more certain does it become that the death of the director-proprietor will precipitate a crisis which may cause the collapse of the business."

Secret Decisions Believed To Have Been Taken At The Empire Talks

REVELATION AWAITS RESULT OF CONVERSATIONS WITH AMERICA

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

London, Dec. 14.

Inevitably perhaps the Commonwealth Economic Conference has left behind it a sense of anti-climax. This was only to be expected.

So much was said and written about the conference before it began that the impression had been formed in many people's minds that the Prime Ministers were about to produce some miracle cure for all that has ailed the Sterling Area economy since the end of the war.

In the event, the conference produced no panaceas but only a formula for harder work and greater sacrifices.

It had, one felt, all been said before. In fact, the final communiqué contained only one item of hard news—the United Kingdom Government's decision to permit capital profits on foreign investments in Britain and the Colonies to be repatriated. The rest was known.

This, however, is no reflection whatsoever on the work of the Prime Ministers' conference. One of the first decisions it made was that the world should be kept as well informed as possible of what they were doing.

The conference was, of course, private but the Press—and through it the public—was kept almost constantly aware of what was going on. As a result, the final communiqué was anticipated in almost every detail by its actual wording.

But there is an obvious limit to what can be said even now about certain matters, especially those which affect the interests of other countries.

The real significance of the conference, therefore, may well rest on decisions that were not even mentioned in the communiqué.

PRICE OF GOLD

What, for example, was decided about the price of gold? This is a question of supreme importance to the whole Sterling Area yet not one word appeared in the communiqué to indicate that the Prime Ministers so much as touched upon the subject.

This is as it should be, for the question of the official price of gold affects the vital interests of countries which were not represented at the conference. Consideration of other countries' interests, no doubt compelled the Commonwealth Prime Ministers to remain silent about other matters that they discussed.

Mr. R. A. Butler's indignation at the tendency in certain public statements to underestimate what has been achieved is therefore understandable. "How do you expect us to announce our plans before we have consulted our friends in the United States and Western Europe?" he has asked. To which one can only echo: How indeed?

DEPENDS ON U.S.

Everything now depends on the success of the Commonwealth's ultimate approach to the United States.

In the matter of trade, for instance, the Prime Ministers envisaged "positive international action for the progressive removal, as circumstances permit, of the import restrictions imposed for the purpose of bringing a country's external accounts into balance."

But they warned the speed with which these restrictions could be abolished would depend on "the advance towards equilibrium between the United States and the rest of the world."

In other words, the first task is to close the dollar gap and keep it closed.

And this will clearly require the help of the United States. Without its convertibility must remain a distant hope.

Strengthening of the gold reserves must, therefore, continue to have first priority.

Since the end of March, 1952, the Sterling Area's gold reserves have risen by \$193 million. Part of this improvement is accounted for by defence aid from the United States.

BALANCE ACHIEVED

More important, however, has been the recovery in Sterling Area trade with members of the European Payments Union, which has recently resulted in large gold payments to the area.

There has also been a welcome improvement in trade with other non-Sterling countries. As a result, the Sterling Area as a whole has achieved a balance with the rest of the world.

This improvement has been achieved, however, only through a drastic reduction in imports and other emergency measures that were taken since the January meeting of the Commonwealth Finance Ministers.

These measures have been successful to the extent that they have enabled the Sterling Area to win a "breathing space." But that is not to say they must be regarded as a permanent feature of Sterling Area trade policy.

On the contrary, the Commonwealth Conference made it perfectly clear that its aim was to secure a multilateral trade and payments system over the widest possible area.

BUT this objective can only be reached after certain basic conditions have been fulfilled. And the most important of these is that the Sterling Area must earn an "adequate and stable" surplus with the rest of the world.

At present the surplus is neither adequate nor stable. The reserves are still too low, the Prime Ministers said, to warrant any "substantial" relaxation of the restrictions on imports from outside the Sterling Area.

It will obviously be some time before they are considered strong enough to allow unrestricted imports of dollar goods. But what of imports that do not cost dollars?

In the Prime Ministers' view the responsibility for restoring unrestricted trade depends as much on the creditor countries as it does on the debtor countries. Implication of their statement that "action (to remove the import restrictions) will be required by both creditor and debtor countries" is quite clear. Before the non-Sterling countries can expect to regain unrestricted access to the Sterling markets they must import more from the Sterling Area. It is necessary for switching some of their purchases from the United States to Commonwealth countries.

AN ESSENTIAL

In other words, balanced trade is an essential prerequisite of unfettered trade.

It is no part of Sterling Area policy to maintain permanent restrictions on imports from any particular area. Each self-governing Commonwealth country is free to remove these restrictions as soon as it thinks fit.

But certain countries—particularly those which are in the process of developing their economies—will have to retain their longer than others. For these countries, import restrictions are more than just a means of balancing trade (though that, of course, is an important consideration in present circumstances).

They are also necessary to enable developing industries to gain a firm footing before they are exposed to competition from imported goods.

Progress towards unrestricted trade will therefore be faster in some Commonwealth countries than in others. But the Prime Ministers' purpose is clear enough. It is to create a climate in which trade between the Sterling Area and the rest of the world can expand for the benefit of all.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE

The new Stock Exchange account, which began on Wednesday, will continue into the New Year. For practical purposes, therefore, the Stock Exchange year has already ended.

It has been a year of considerable fluctuations in both gilt-edged and industrial stocks but prices are now well above the low levels of mid-summer. British Government securities (not some five and a half per cent up to the end of the first half year but now only a small fall).

The Financial Times' index of gilt-edged prices stood at 94.97 on Tuesday compared with 90.23 a year ago and 90.22 at the end of June.

Industrial shares suffered a sharp fall but they have recovered a good part of the losses made earlier in the year. The industrial share price index at 113.4 is some 12 per cent above its low level at the end of June. But not lower than last year's average, which was about 112.6 per cent.

What of 1953? The Financial Times market expert writes: "It can be said in favour of the prospect of firm markets during 1953 that the worst of the known problems appear to be behind us and that if the Commonwealth Economic Conference means anything to the investor, it is that an expansionist in place of a restrictionist era lies ahead."

"And that should favour long-term investments. This is likely to be a plant of slow growth, however."

The markets this past week have been extremely quiet but on the whole they have remained fairly firm.

Investors appear to have been awaiting the final communiqué of the Commonwealth Conference but when it came it did not make much difference to business.

The gilt-edged market has been overshadowed by the prospect of next week's big issues. The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company is expected to issue £20 million of new debentures, and another £20 million of coal stock (in connection with compensation to former colliery owners) is also due to be issued on Monday.

Apart from a few selected issues, industrial shares have been neglected. Oils fluctuated throughout the week but finished on a firm note, on a more optimistic reading of the Persian situation and rumours of Anglo-Iranian's forthcoming debenture issue.

HONGKONG SHARE MARKET

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Stock Exchange this morning amounted to \$192,285. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions—

SHARES BUYERS SELLERS SALES

INSURANCES	253	250	750	200
Canton	700	10	703	
Union		62	62	100
HK Fire				

SHIPPING

"Asia Nav."	140	100
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DOCKERS, ETC.

"K. Wharf"	9015	100	90
"P. Wharf"	640	500	643
Provident	12,900	2500	12,950
Wharfedale			
Wells		623	1015

LAND, ETC.

"HK Hotel"	743
"HK Land (O)"	5914
"HK Land (O)"	58
Alumina	1470

UTILITIES

Trans	2230	500	2210
Star Ferry	121		
"C. Light (O)"	915	935	935
"C. Light (N)"	015	1000	030
Electric	2370		
Macao Elec.	1120		
Telephones	1770	410	100
"Tel. (N)"		1100	405

INDUSTRIALS

Consolidated	1020
Rope	2090
Brooks	1590
Dairy	1590
Watson	2440
"Grayford"	33
OCTOPUS	2371
Two	3000

RUBBER FUTURES

In S'pore

Singapore, Dec. 14. Prices of rubber futures closed today as follows—

Number 1 rubber, per lb.	9015-16
January	9015-16
February	9015-16
March	9015-16
Number 2 rubber, per lb.	9015-16
January	9015-16
February	9015-16
March	9015-16
Black rubber, unbleached	9015-16
Black rubber, crepe	9015-16
No. 1 pale crepe	9015-16
No. 2 pale crepe	9015-16
No. 3 pale crepe	9015-16
No. 4 pale crepe	9015-16
No. 5 pale crepe	9015-16
No. 6 pale crepe	9015-16
No. 7 pale crepe	9015-16
No. 8 pale crepe	9015-16
No. 9 pale crepe	9015-16
No. 10 pale crepe	9015-16
No. 11 pale crepe	9015-16
No. 12 pale crepe	9015-16
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